

29.2: An

draft
general management plan/environmental assessment
land protection plan
aniakchak wild river management plan
wilderness suitability review

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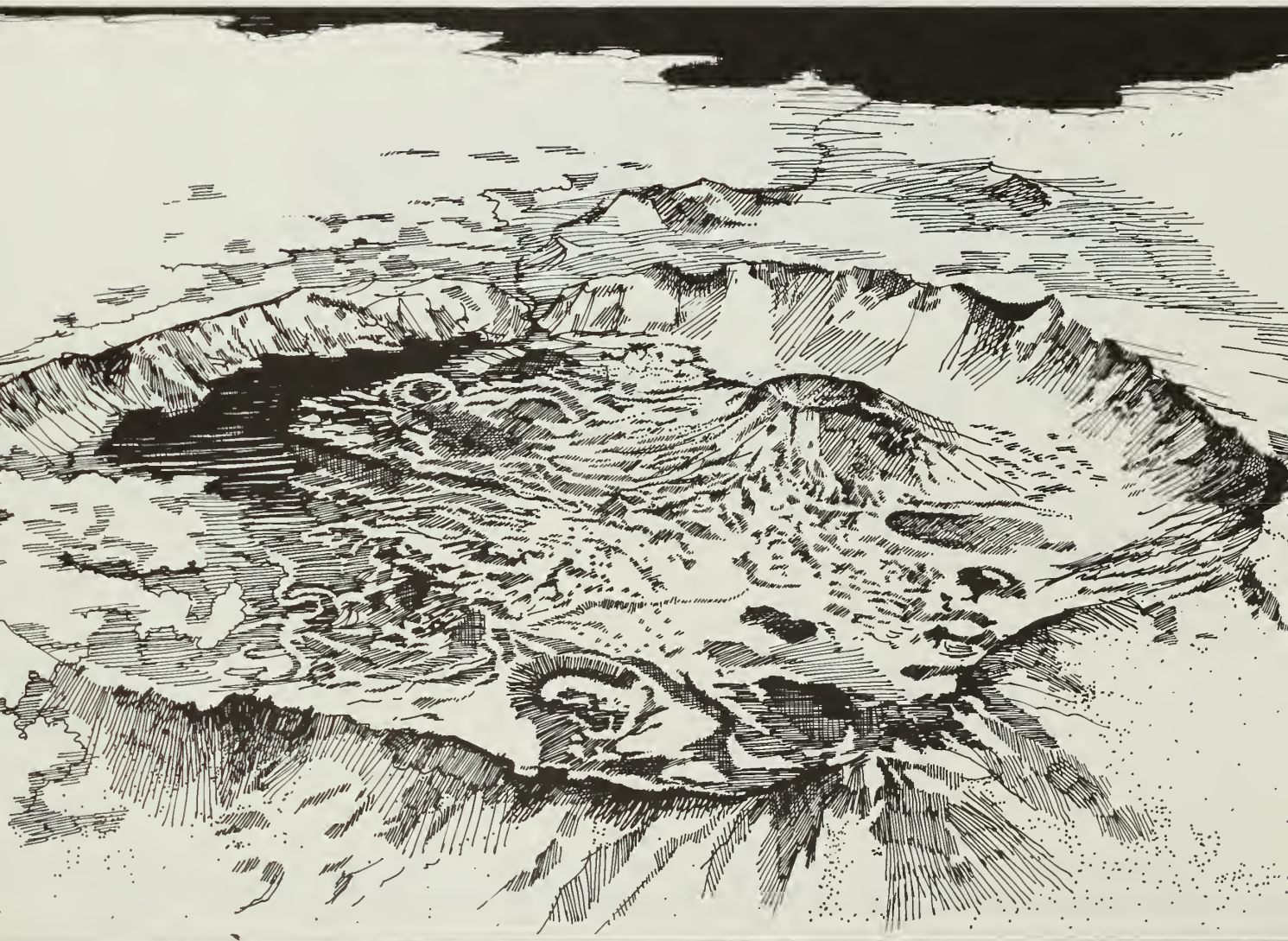
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Draft
General Management Plan / Environmental Assessment
Land Protection Plan
Aniakchak Wild River Management Plan
Wilderness Suitability Review
Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve Alaska



ANILCA REQUIREMENTS

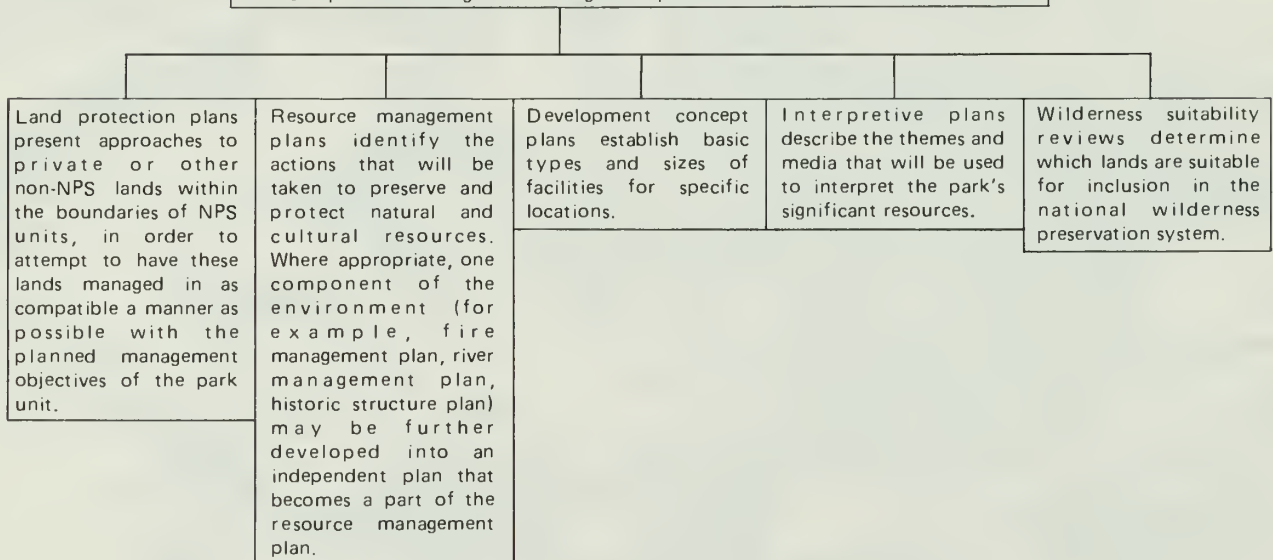
Section 1301 of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA: PL 96-487) requires the preparation of conservation and management plans for each unit of the national park system established or enlarged by ANILCA. These plans are to describe programs and methods for managing resources, proposed development for visitor services and facilities, proposed access and circulation routes and transportation facilities, programs and methods for protecting the culture of local residents, plans for acquiring land or modifying boundaries, methods for ensuring that uses of private lands are compatible with the purposes of the unit, and opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation with other regional landowners.



NPS PLANNING DOCUMENTS

The National Park Service planning process for each park (preserve, monument, or other unit of the system) involves a number of stages, progressing from the formulation of broad objectives, through decisions about what general management direction should be followed to achieve the objectives, to formulation of detailed actions for implementing specific components of the general management plan.

The general management plan addresses topics of resource management, visitor use, park operations, and development in general terms. The goal of this plan is to establish a consensus among the National Park Service and interested agencies, groups, and individuals about the types and levels of visitor use, development, and resource protection that will occur. These decisions are based on the purpose of the park, its significant values, the activities occurring there now, and the resolution of any major issues surrounding possible land use conflicts within and adjacent to the park. The following kinds of detailed action plans are prepared concurrently with or after completion of the general management plan.



Depending largely on the complexity of individual planning efforts, action plans may or may not be prepared simultaneously with the general management plan. If they are prepared after the general plan, the NPS public involvement and cooperative planning efforts are continued until all of the implementation plans are completed.

SUMMARY


The following document provides a description, an environmental analysis, and a proposal for use and management of Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, a 600,000-acre federal park area on the Alaska Peninsula.

The draft proposal preferred by the National Park Service, and presented here for public comment, would continue existing types and levels of public use at Aniakchak, monitor these uses, and increase resource management and protection. Because good management requires resource knowledge, identifying research priorities and initiating surveys are important elements of the proposal.

The plan also calls for several National Park Service staff positions to provide permanent and seasonal resource protection, assistance to visitors, and liaison with local communities. No permanent facilities, trails, or campgrounds within the monument or preserve are considered necessary for either administration or visitor use, with the exception of maintenance of an existing public use cabin at the mouth of the Aniakchak River. No developments or concession operations for visitor accommodation or transportation are proposed.

Results of a wilderness suitability review conclude that all federal lands within the monument and preserve on which there are no pending selections (64 percent of the total) are suitable. The lands on which there are pending selections either for surface or subsurface oil and gas rights total 34 percent, and are placed in a category of suitability pending. The remaining 2 percent of lands are not federally owned and are considered not suitable.

On the primary land protection issue--oil and gas rights that may eventually be conveyed to the Koniag Regional Native Corporation--the National Park Service proposes to seek acquisition of these rights, giving priority to areas of high resource value and visitor use.



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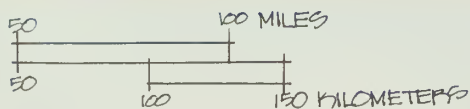
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NORTH



REGION and VICINITY

ANIAKCHAK

NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

181 | 2002/13
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INTRODUCTION

ANIACHAK NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE

Midway down the wild and roadless Alaska Peninsula lies one of the nation's most fascinating recent volcanic features, Aniakchak, a 6-mile-wide, 2,000-foot-deep caldera formed by the collapse of a once lofty 7,000-foot mountain. This great caldera's location inland in a region of frequent clouds and stormy weather meant Aniakchak remained unknown to all but native inhabitants until the 1920s. Then, geographers remotely plotting the location of mountains along the caldera's rim noticed their strange circular configuration, and eventually in 1922, a field party gazed down into the caldera and brought back news of its immense proportions.

Although there are a dozen calderas on the Alaska Peninsula, Aniakchak is one of the largest. Its volcanic history is a fascinating story readable from its exposed "internal plumbing." Sometime about 3,500 years ago, there was a dramatic explosion and subsequent loss of 3,000 feet or so of the upper mountain followed by collapse of the remainder to form a relatively flat-floored, ash-filled bowl. On a number of occasions after the original formation, lesser eruptions have created the small internal cones, lava or fresh pumice flows, and collapsed explosion pits that now dot the caldera floor. Since some explosion features seem to have been created underwater, it appears the caldera may once have contained a deep snow-fed lake. Eventually at a low place along the rim, lake waters began to spill out and, over time, the fast-flowing stream has created a great breach in the rim--the Gates--which now allows the Aniakchak River to begin its tumultuous 32-mile course southeastward to the Pacific Ocean.

Aniakchak's most recent volcanic activity was in 1931 when a small but impressive explosion pit was added to the pockmarked caldera floor, and many thousands of tons of ash were scattered within the caldera and as much as 40 miles away in the small villages. This event, fortunately documented "before and after" by an indomitable geologist and Jesuit priest named Father Hubbard, provides an important benchmark by which to judge the rate vegetation and wildlife will return to the devastated caldera. Mosses, grasses, and more complex flowering plants have invaded in sheltered spots; brown bear and caribou once again are beginning to enter, along with an occasional wolf; and runs of sockeye salmon now return up the Aniakchak River all the way to Surprise Lake, the river's small shallow headwater lake remaining in the caldera.

In creating Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve, Congress not only recognized the unique geological significance of the caldera, but also acknowledged the outstanding wildlife and recreational values of the Aniakchak River by designating it a wild river within the national wild and scenic rivers system. Boundaries of the area also include a vast sweep of treeless tundra and lowland ecosystem characterizing the lower Alaska Peninsula.

Evidence of ancient human history at Aniakchak is minimal, but perhaps eventually more will be known of this important transition zone between

ancestral Aleuts and Eskimos. Local village residents can provide a fascinating and valuable perspective on how native lifestyles have changed--and how cycles of plants and animals have come and gone in this harsh environment.

LEGISLATIVE AND PLANNING HISTORY

Aniakchak National Monument was initially created as a unit of the national park system by presidential proclamation in December 1978. It was subsequently designated a monument and preserve by section 201(1) of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) on December 2, 1980. Section 1301 of that act requires the development of a "conservation and management plan" for Aniakchak by December 2, 1985, generally specifies the procedures for developing the plan, and outlines its minimum content. Section 601 designates the Aniakchak as a wild river, and section 1317 requires a review of suitability for wilderness designation. A summary of ANILCA provisions regarding Aniakchak is found in appendix A.

The National Park Service has an established procedure and sequence by which it is meeting Aniakchak's planning and management goals as mandated not only by ANILCA but also by the 1916 act establishing the National Park Service, the 1964 Wilderness Act, the 1966 National Historic Preservation Act, the 1968 Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, and various other federal acts and regulations.

Basically, this procedure requires definition of the major issues and clarification of objectives for which Aniakchak was originally set aside, followed by public discussion of issues and various feasible management alternatives. A single alternative, or a combination thereof, is chosen for detailed presentation as a draft proposal together with environmental analysis. The proposed plan of action is called the general management plan, which must adequately specify the basic strategies to reach resource management and visitor use objectives; the general management plan may also contain or call for separate plans or sections specifically guiding implementation of the more complex strategies, such as those for natural and cultural resource protection, research, land protection or acquisition, and facilities development.

For Aniakchak, issues and objectives were first outlined in 1983 in a publicly reviewed document, the Statement for Management, which has served as an interim guide to management during preparation of the general management plan. Fieldwork and data collection took place in the summer and fall of 1983, and in February 1984 a workbook on issues and alternatives was presented for informal public review. The present draft general management plan represents the National Park Service's proposed plan for conservation and management of Aniakchak for the next 5 to 10 years, and is based on its analysis of information and public review to date. The final approved plan will in turn be based on results of public review of this draft.

DOCUMENT ORGANIZATION

The following document is divided into two parts.

Part One: The Plans contains various specific proposed plans of action or results of reviews to meet the requirements of ANILCA and other federal legislation and policies:

A General Management Plan setting forth basic strategies for resource conservation and management, public use and development, and administration in compliance with section 1301 of ANILCA and specific national park system legislation.

A Land Protection Plan specifically stating a plan for protecting Aniakchak from development activities that would adversely affect the resources by acquiring the minimum estate necessary and addressing other requirements of section 1301(b)(6) and (7) of ANILCA.

An Aniakchak Wild River Management Plan stating specific management and uses within the Aniakchak River corridor in compliance with section 605(d) of ANILCA and section 3(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

A Wilderness Suitability Review that analyzes suitability of federal lands within Aniakchak for potential inclusion within the National Wilderness Preservation System, in compliance with section 1317(a) of ANILCA and sections 3(c) and (d) of the Wilderness Act, as amended.

Part Two: Environmental Assessment contains the necessary description of the natural, cultural, and socioeconomic environments of Aniakchak as required by sections 1301(b)(1) and (2) of ANILCA. It also provides the required environmental analysis of the consequences of actions proposed in all three action plans, as well as discussion of alternatives considered during preparation of these plans.

ISSUES AND OBJECTIVES

The major issues to be addressed in this GMP and associated plans, as presented in previous public review documents, are identified below. Detailed management objectives from the Statement for Management are given in appendix B.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT, AND RESEARCH

ANILCA established Aniakchak to preserve and protect its natural and cultural resources. Provision was also made for continued opportunity for subsistence uses, where traditional, and sportfishing in the monument. The preserve provides opportunities for subsistence uses and sport hunting, fishing, and trapping.

The issue is the means to ensure that the opportunity for traditional uses can be maintained while preserving the natural and cultural resources of the area. This will require knowledge of these resources through research and an ability to recognize and analyze impacts of use. Guidelines for undertaking research must be set, and priority problems must be identified.

PUBLIC USE ACTIVITIES

Subsistence use and fishing in the monument and preserve and sport hunting, fishing, and trapping in the preserve are traditional consumptive uses in Aniakchak. Nonconsumptive recreational uses such as hiking, rafting, photography, and wilderness exploration have not been common in Aniakchak. Whereas increases in subsistence use are not anticipated, increases in recreational use (which includes sport hunting and fishing as well as nonconsumptive uses) are likely. They are expected to focus on the caldera, the Aniakchak River and its mouth, the Meshik River, and Meshik Lake, where there is some potential for competition with subsistence users and for impacts on the resources.

The major issue is whether to manage the expected increased recreational use or to simply accept it.

VISITOR SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT

Closely tied to decisions on management of recreational use are decisions on what degree of interpretation, physical assistance, or protection from potential danger to provide recreational visitors.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Aniakchak is a remote area. Currently it is managed from King Salmon, 140 miles to the north, by the superintendent of Katmai National Park and Preserve. No permanent full-time staff is assigned nor are there any administrative facilities within the area or in nearby villages.

Consistent with other general management plan decisions on resource conservation, research, and visitor use, an administrative structure must be developed to effectively manage Aniakchak.

PRIVATE INTERESTS WITHIN ANIAKCHAK

Landownership and Subsurface Rights

As various provisions of ANILCA and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA) are implemented, the pattern of private landownership in Aniakchak is becoming clearer. Currently 152,780 acres of mineral in-lieu selections (oil and gas only) made by the Kodiak Regional Native Corporation, Koniag Inc.; two native allotments; and a parcel of state land are the only unresolved or clearly nonfederal properties within the monument and preserve.

The issue is what private use and development might occur on such lands and whether it would be detrimental to the purposes of the area. If detrimental development is likely, measures must be considered to protect the values of adjacent federal lands within the monument and preserve.

Guide Areas and Guide Services

Although guided activities in Aniakchak, generally moose and bear hunting, have remained at modest levels in recent years, there is potential for their increase. Also to be expected are increased levels of guided rafting, hiking, and wilderness exploration.

To be resolved is to what extent guides and guided activities should be encouraged.

RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL INFLUENCES

Various potential changes in land use, transportation, and community character in the Aniakchak region are being discussed. Of most serious concern to monument/preserve management would be discovery and development of oil, gas, or hard-rock minerals. This discovery might bring new or enlarged neighboring communities, a pipeline or transport corridor across the peninsula, and provide easier access to the area.

The issue is the level of NPS participation in regional planning and how the monument/preserve would respond to external development from the perspective of its mandate of resource conservation and protection.



PART ONE
The Plans

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The underlying management emphasis for Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve is to better understand its natural and cultural resources and to ensure that natural ecological processes and cultural resources are preserved through monitoring and protection activities that consider current as well as anticipated patterns and amounts of public use.

Aniakchak is now and for the life of this plan will remain a wild area where the user will meet the area's challenges in isolation and without facilities. Recognizing that public use, particularly recreational, is now at very low levels, management of public use will initially be minimal. Improvements in access to or through the area, or in facilities whose principal purpose is to encourage increased recreational use, will not be proposed.

External events, particularly discovery and development of oil and gas, could significantly affect the National Park Service's ability to maintain the principal resource values of Aniakchak. Accordingly, close cooperation will be necessary with regional development planners to ensure the maximum protection of the unit's integrity over the long term.

MANAGEMENT ZONING

The National Park Service will not designate management zones until further baseline studies produce more definitive knowledge about the resources of Aniakchak. Such zoning to manage specific activities in designated areas is believed to be premature for the new park units in Alaska.

RESOURCE CONSERVATION, MANAGEMENT, AND RESEARCH

Wildlife and Fisheries

ANILCA's clear statement that preserving and protecting Aniakchak's natural and cultural resources is a primary reason the monument/preserve was established means the highest priority must be placed on those goals. However, provision for continued opportunities for subsistence use and sportfishing in the monument and preserve and for sport hunting, fishing, and trapping in the preserve means that these too will be accommodated.

Major conflicts between these protection and use mandates are not anticipated due to the large size of the area and the relatively small amount of these consumptive uses. However, the National Park Service is committed to anticipation and resolution of problems through active cooperation with the state, other federal agencies, and the users themselves.

In cooperation with the National Park Service, the state of Alaska is responsible for establishing fishing, hunting, and trapping regulations in the monument/preserve and for maintaining healthy fish and wildlife populations consistent with federal and state law. The state licenses both commercial and sport fishermen, along with sporthunters, and it sets seasons and bag limits. The Park Service will cooperate with the state wherever possible in setting seasons and limits that are compatible with monument/preserve management and policies.

Subsistence harvest of fish, wildlife, and related resources on federal lands and waters in Alaska is now controlled by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game under provisions of ANILCA. Under ANILCA, the lands and waters within the monument are open to subsistence uses and sportfishing. Sport hunting, fishing, trapping, and subsistence uses are to be allowed in the preserve. These uses are subject to state and federal laws. ANILCA requires that such harvest activities remain consistent with the maintenance of healthy populations of fish and wildlife in the preserve and natural and healthy populations of fish and wildlife in the monument. The National Park Service will work with the Subsistence Resource Commission for Aniakchak to develop a subsistence hunting plan. In addition, the Park Service will prepare a subsistence management plan that will incorporate information from the hunting plan, as well as other elements such as addressing access, shelters, traditional use areas, and resident zones.

ANILCA also requires the monument/preserve to be administered by the secretary of the interior for a wide variety of purposes, including the protection of natural fish and wildlife populations and habitats. When the taking of fish and game conflicts with other established purposes of the monument/preserve, the National Park Service may promulgate regulations concerning consumptive uses and manipulation of resources that are more restrictive than the laws and regulations of the state. During congressional hearings before the passage of ANILCA, the following policy statement was made:

It is contrary to the National Park Service concept to manipulate habitat or populations to achieve maximum utilization of natural resources. Rather, the National Park System concept requires implementation of management policies which strive to maintain the natural abundance, behavior, diversity, and ecological integrity of native animals as part of their ecosystem, and that concept should be maintained. . . .

It is expected that the National Park Service will take appropriate steps when necessary to ensure that consumptive uses of fish and wildlife populations within National Park Service units not be allowed to adversely disrupt the natural balance which has been maintained for thousands of years. Accordingly, the National Park Service will not engage in habitat manipulation or control of other species for the purpose of maintaining subsistence uses within National Park System units. (Congressional Record, Aug. 18, 1980, p. S 11135-36.)

Manipulation of habitat or animal populations will not be permitted on lands within Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve except under extraordinary circumstances and when consistent with NPS policy.

The working relationship between the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the National Park Service is defined in a master memorandum of understanding (see appendix C) and in the Department of the Interior fish and wildlife policies contained in 43 CFR 24.

It is premature to propose specific wildlife species, habitat, or fire management plans, or to suggest that existing state fish and game regulations should or should not be changed. The National Park Service will cooperate with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in conducting general and site-specific natural resource research and advise the state of any NPS concerns regarding local regulations. NPS staff will assist in enforcement of state regulations. Unless or until such time as these cooperative efforts lead to the conclusion that current regulations are failing to achieve conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife within the preserve and natural and healthy populations within the monument, the Park Service will continue to adopt all nonconflicting state hunting, trapping, and fishing regulations pursuant to 36 CFR 2.2 and 2.3 regarding use of fish and wildlife in the preserve. This adoption of state regulations does not diminish the right and obligation of the secretary of the interior, upon consultation with the state, to designate areas where or establish periods when no taking of fish and wildlife will be permitted in Aniakchak for reasons of public safety and administration, or to ensure the continued viability of particular wildlife populations (ANILCA sections 816(b) and 1313).

Cultural Resources

Cultural resource surveys and identification of any sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places will be accomplished in cooperation with the state historic preservation officer and appropriate federal regulations. Sites thus identified will be classified according to significance and scheduled for appropriate treatment. This might involve no special protection, simple archeological evaluation of a site, or reconstruction or adaptive restoration of a structure for use by visitors or management staff.

Research

A comprehensive program of natural and cultural resource research is necessary in order to manage the permitted consumptive uses as well as to recognize and analyze impacts associated with nonconsumptive uses and regional influences such as air pollution. Detailed research planning is beyond the scope of this general management plan and will be presented in a separate annually revised document called the resource management plan, now underway. Interested state and federal agencies, native corporations, and private interests will have an opportunity to participate in this ongoing resource management planning effort. In a series of

separately directed projects, the resource management plan for Aniakchak reflects the general management plan's emphasis on better understanding the area's cultural resources and natural systems (wildlife, vegetation, weather, geology) and stresses on those systems (subsistence and sport harvest) before recommending actions to regulate harvest or to otherwise manage elements of the ecosystem. For a summary of projects contained in the (1984) resource management plan draft, see appendix D.

Some research projects will be undertaken in the field by Aniakchak's resource management specialist, assisted by seasonal rangers (technicians) and NPS regional scientific staff. Others will be done under contract with academic institutions such as the University of Alaska, where a number of individual investigators are already covered under cooperative work agreements. With research funding anticipated to be limited, there will also be emphasis on cost-effective cooperative programs of monitoring and research with the state, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and other federal agencies under terms of existing memoranda of agreement.

An integral part of the research, monitoring, and interpretation programs at Aniakchak will be the systematic collection and professional maintenance of museum specimens. These will include historic photographs, documents, and objects as well as natural history specimens. Provisions will be made either in King Salmon or a central repository for proper care and use of this collection. Guidelines concerning appropriate materials for collection are contained in a separate "Scope of Collections Statement and Collecting Guidelines" prepared by NPS staff.

PUBLIC USE ACTIVITIES

Subsistence use and sportfishing in the monument and preserve and sport hunting, fishing, and trapping in the preserve will continue to be permitted, subject to applicable state and federal regulations. Other forms of recreational use--nonconsumptive activities such as rafting, hiking, wilderness exploration, photography, and nature study--will also be permitted, subject to such regulations as may eventually be needed to avoid conflict with subsistence use and other recreational activities, and to avoid damage to natural or cultural resources.

Although subsistence use is clearly established as traditional in various areas of the monument and preserve, all forms of public use are currently occurring only at very low levels. Hunting guide activity occurs annually, particularly during bear seasons; only a few fishing parties are known to have visited the area recently; and fewer than 10 hiking or rafting visitors per year have been reported for the past five years. However, as the scenic resources and wilderness challenge of Aniakchak become better known, increases in public use can be expected. Predicting the amount of increased use is difficult. Since Aniakchak is remote, difficult to reach, and subject to notoriously bad weather, it is not anticipated that visitor use will rise quickly to the point of psychological crowding. The potential for unacceptable resource impacts also seems remote. Similarly, very few conflicts involving nonconsumptive recreational visitors and consumptive users are anticipated because hunting and trapping seasons are generally not open at times (late

summer, fall, winter) when hiking, rafting, and exploring (early and mid summer) are most attractive.

ANILCA (section 804) and state law clearly establish the priority of subsistence use over other uses in the taking of fish and wildlife.

ANILCA states that Aniakchak be reviewed as to its suitability for designation as wilderness. Results of that review conclude that most of Aniakchak is currently suitable for wilderness (see "Wilderness Suitability Review"). Until such time as Congress takes action on any future wilderness recommendations, the area is to be managed according to standards set by the Wilderness Act and wilderness management provisions applicable to Alaska (section 1315 of ANILCA). Specifically, this means maintaining Aniakchak's present undeveloped character and its opportunities for solitude.

PUBLIC ACCESS, SERVICES, AND DEVELOPMENT

Proposals related to recreational visitor services and administrative development are summarized on the General Development map. A summary of general access provisions for subsistence and recreational use is found in table 1, and more access provisions are listed in appendix E.

Consistent with the principles and proposals described for public use, no improvement in access by air is proposed by the National Park Service. The current access by private amphibious or floatplane air charter principally from King Salmon to Surprise Lake and pickup at various other points is anticipated to continue as the most flexible method of visiting the caldera or the Aniakchak River. Less costly charter of wheeled planes from Port Heiden may develop if there is a demand. In neither case is a concession contract between the National Park Service and any air-taxi company considered necessary or advisable. As elsewhere in NPS Alaska areas, a commercial use license and annual reporting of activities is required. Operation and landing of private aircraft or aircraft engaged in guiding in Aniakchak will continue to be permitted under applicable state and federal laws. Areas such as lakes, gravel bars, beaches, and ash fields that can be safely used as landing and takeoff points within either the monument or preserve without improvement or artificial aids will continue to be accessible unless their continued use is detrimental to wildlife, natural resources, or to other values or the safety of other users.

Access by powered and unpowered watercraft will continue without regulation except for currently applicable state and federal laws. The only areas where conflict might be anticipated are on the Meshik River or the lower Aniakchak River. There rafters could encounter powerboaters engaged in subsistence or sport fishing and hunting in the short, late summer period when favorable rafting conditions may overlap with hunting for moose or caribou. Such conflicts can be minimized through public information programs to inform each user group of appropriate behavior. No docks or stream or shoreside construction to assist boat operation is considered necessary.

KING SALMON

PERMANENT AREA MANAGER AND RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST
INFORMATION / INTERPRETATION
IN JOINT FACILITY
AIR CHARTERS TO
MONUMENT/PRESERVE

ANIAKCHAK CALDERA AND RIVER

LIMITED RECREATIONAL USE
NO FACILITIES
MONITORING IMPACTS

MONUMENT IN GENERAL

SUBSISTENCE USE
CONTINUES WHERE
TRADITIONAL
NO FACILITIES
RESEARCH AND
MONITORING

PRESERVE IN GENERAL

SUBSISTENCE USE AND SPORT
HUNTING, FISHING, AND
TRAPPING CONTINUE
NO FACILITIES
RESEARCH AND MONITORING

ALASKA
PENINSULA NWR

PORT HEIDEN

PART-TIME COORDINATOR
NO FACILITIES
PERIODIC VISITS BY AREA STAFF

PORT HEIDEN

MESHIK

BIRTHDAY CREEK

MESHIK RIVER

ANIAKCHAK
CALDERA

SUMMIT LAKE

THE STILTS

CLACK NOSE

ANIAKCHAK PEAK

VENT MOUNTAIN

PITCHORY PASS

JAW MOUNTAIN

ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN

THE TWINS

AMBER BAY

ANIAKCHAK BAY

CAFE HUMULIN

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MESHIK LAKE AND RIVER

LIMITED RECREATIONAL USE
PERIODIC NPS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES

ANIAKCHAK RIVER MOUTH

PUBLIC USE CABIN RESTORED
PERIODIC NPS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES
SEASONAL RANGERS

CHIGNIK BAY VILLAGE

PART-TIME COORDINATOR
NO FACILITIES
PERIODIC VISITS BY AREA STAFF

CHIGNIK VILLAGES

SUTWIK ISLAND

CAFE HUMULIN

CAFE HUMULIN

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MONUMENT BOUNDARY

PRESERVE BOUNDARY



COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP



AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING
(UNIMPROVED)



VILLAGE BUILDINGS



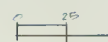
CABINS



IDENTIFIED HIKING CORRIDOR



NORTH



25 50 MILES

GENERAL DEVELOPMENT

ANIAKCHAK

NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

101 2003PA
DAG NWA 03

Table 1: Summary of General Access Provisions for Subsistence and Recreational Use

<u>Means of Access:</u> ¹	<u>Subsistence</u> ²	<u>Reference*</u>	<u>Recreation</u>	<u>Reference*</u>	<u>Changes Proposed in Plan</u>
Snowmachines	Yes	ANILCA 811 36 CFR 13.46	Yes	ANILCA 1110 36 CFR 13.10	None
Offroad vehicles	No	ANILCA 811 36 CFR 13.46	No	ANILCA 101 36 CFR 4.19	None
Motorboats	Yes	ANILCA 811 36 CFR 13.46	Yes	ANILCA 1110 36 CFR 13.11	None
Fixed-wing aircraft	No	ANILCA 811 36 CFR 13.45	Yes	ANILCA 1110 36 CFR 13.13	None
	Except: ³				
Helicopters	No	ANILCA 811 36 CFR 13.13	No	ANILCA 1110 36 CFR 13.13	None

¹The superintendent may close an area or restrict an activity on an emergency, temporary, or permanent basis (36 CFR 13.30).

²Villages within the resident zone for Aniakchak (CFR 13.60 (a)) are Chignik, Chignik Lake, Chignik Lagoon, Meshik, and Port Heiden.

³In extraordinary cases authorized by 36 CFR 13.45.

*ANILCA refers to sections of the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act of 1980. Part 13 of Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations (36 CFR 13), "National Park System Units in Alaska," is contained in appendix F.

No hiking trails will be constructed or improved. A corridor from the monument's western boundary nearest Port Heiden to the rim of the caldera will be identified on small-scale maps and possibly with a few cairns on the ground to assist cross-country hikers in locating a route generally free from willow and alder. The National Park Service is aware that the state might assert certain claims of rights-of-way under Revised Statute (RS) 2477 (43 USC 932). The Park Service intends to cooperate with the state (and any other claimant) in identifying these claims, the nature, extent, and validity of which may vary depending on the circumstances under which they were acquired or asserted. Notwithstanding that certain RS 2477 rights-of-way may exist, it will still be necessary for users of any right-of-way to comply with applicable NPS permit requirements.

Services made available to the different users will be only the minimum required to protect natural and cultural resources, inform each group of the interests and rights of others, provide information on trip planning and safety, and provide an opportunity to learn more about the character and significance of Aniakchak's resources. These services will generally be provided outside the area through staff contacts in the villages and at contact points such as the administrative headquarters in King Salmon. No visitor assistance or interpretive programs involving NPS staff inside Aniakchak will be provided, although such service will be available for incidental contacts during resource management and patrol duties.

The principal interpretive service will be written materials available at contact points outside Aniakchak. Visual materials--a slide program or film--will be available outside Aniakchak for orientation of visitors and for integration into interpretive programs in Katmai National Park and Preserve and other NPS areas. Those materials sponsored or produced by the National Park Service will concentrate on explaining the geological structure and history of Aniakchak, its relative significance among Alaskan, other U.S., and worldwide examples of volcanism, and discussions of wildlife and other natural history values. Maps will be made available, but detailed guidebooks on the caldera or rafting the river are not considered consistent with the element of individual initiative and first-time exploration that now characterize Aniakchak.

Visitor safety is of concern, but as a practical matter, little assistance can be provided to visitors once they have entered the area. The best method for avoiding safety problems is adequate preparation in terms of group leadership, personal skills, equipment, and knowledge of potential weather, wildlife, or river hazards. Recommendations on preparing for a visit will be available and efforts made to get this advice to visitors in advance of their arrival. Cooperative planning involving visitor groups, air-taxi companies, and park staff will be essential in minimizing risks. In the event of serious mishap, the National Park Service will render assistance in search and rescue efforts in cooperation with other public and private agencies under a plan to be developed for that purpose.

Physical facilities provided specifically for recreational visitors will consist of the following: At King Salmon visitor information, trip planning advice, and interpretation will be provided in a structure shared with Katmai National Park and Preserve. Subject to further approval and

design, a joint visitor facility used by Aniakchak, Katmai, and the Becharof and Alaska Peninsula national wildlife refuges in King Salmon is necessary and desirable. This facility will be accessible to the handicapped.

No visitor facilities are considered necessary or appropriate in Port Heiden or in the Chignik villages. Informational programs and materials will be available for schools and special interest groups in all villages and towns involved with Aniakchak, including the Chigniks, Port Heiden, Pilot Point, King Salmon, Naknek, Kodiak, and others.

At this time no NPS visitor facilities will be constructed or camping areas designated in the caldera or along the Aniakchak or Meshik rivers. The existing public use cabin (APA bunkhouse) at the mouth of the Aniakchak River will continue to be maintained consistent with its historical design, and will be available to both public users and park staff. Simple sanitary facilities and possibly an elevated food-storage cache will be provided there also. Since likelihood of interaction between humans and brown bears seems higher here at the beach than elsewhere along the river and parties may have to wait several days for an air pickup, it is considered prudent to maintain this minimum shelter. Regulation of use at this cabin is not considered necessary at this time, but use will be monitored so that conflicts can be avoided.

In accordance with section 1316(b) of ANILCA, the National Park Service proposes not to allow the establishment on public lands of any new ". . . tent platforms, shelters and other temporary facilities and equipment directly and necessarily related to . . ." the taking of fish and wildlife in Aniakchak National Preserve. Such new facilities or equipment would constitute a significant expansion of existing facilities or uses that would be detrimental to the purposes for which the preserve was established. Temporary structures in support of subsistence activities are authorized under existing regulations (36 CFR 13.17).

Minimum-impact camping methods will be required for all commercially guided groups and encouraged for all private visitors. Monitoring of physical impacts and the frequency of interaction between groups will be undertaken through observation and informal discussions by park staff.

ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE AND DEVELOPMENT

Administrative staffing, facilities, and locations will be consistent with the emphasis on resource management and research. The cost and implementation schedule for the proposal is contained in appendix G. Aniakchak's administrative headquarters will remain in King Salmon where it can take advantage of existing administrative infrastructure supporting Katmai National Park and Preserve. King Salmon is the location through which most visitors will continue to arrive and where air-taxis will continue to be arranged. This location is also appropriate for retaining contact with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Becharof and Alaska Peninsula national wildlife refuges) with whom coordination on research and management is a primary objective. No other permanent administrative facilities are considered necessary for the life of this plan.

The long-term permanent staffing goal is to have a full-time area manager for Aniakchak, reporting directly to the superintendent of Katmai, assisted by a resource management specialist.

A resource management specialist will be the principal NPS staff person for the monument/preserve, with the Katmai superintendent retaining overall responsibility for personnel, budget, and planning. The resource specialist would frequently visit local villages in both winter and summer and be the principal contact for those visitors to Aniakchak.

Two seasonal ranger (technician) positions exclusively for Aniakchak will be established. These positions will emphasize observation, resource management and monitoring, information, and enforcement of regulations when necessary. Their tasks will include extended patrols in the monument and preserve for monitoring, collecting routine data, and assisting research and management efforts of the National Park Service and other agencies.

There is a continuing need for communication with local interests in the villages. To provide this and to establish a point of contact for assistance to NPS staff on their frequent visits to the villages, two part-time village coordinator positions will be established, one each in Port Heiden and one of the Chignik villages. Their functions would include communicating local village concerns to NPS staff as well as providing specific knowledge and assistance in planning and implementing research and monitoring programs.

For all personnel positions, qualified local residents will be encouraged to apply. The part-time village coordinator and seasonal ranger positions are especially suited for the local hire provisions of section 1308(a) of ANILCA.

Physical facilities required for administration are minimal. Office space for the area manager and resource management specialist in King Salmon will be provided by Katmai in its existing facility. No permanent facilities are envisioned in local villages. If needed by the resident coordinator and/or for temporary accommodation of seasonal rangers or the resource management specialist, a small office may be seasonally rented in a village. In the monument/preserve, no permanent new cabins for administrative purposes are proposed, but adaptive restoration of the APA bunkhouse and elevated food-storage cache for joint staff/public use is required. Since the bunkhouse is historically significant, any stabilization or improvements will be consistent with preserving its historical values. Where resource management and research efforts require extended on-site staffing, portable shelters and tent platforms may be temporarily constructed for the use of NPS and other agency or institution staff.

PRIVATE INTERESTS WITHIN ANIAKCHAK

Proposals dealing with state and private landownership and subsurface oil and gas interests (i.e., ownership, not just development) are dealt with in the "Land Protection Plan."

If recreational use of Aniakchak originating outside the Alaska Peninsula increases, there may be modest increases in demand for food service and accommodation in the principal staging area, King Salmon, and to a lesser degree in Port Heiden. If additional capacity is required, the private sector is expected to meet that need. Similarly, if and when demand exceeds air-taxi capacity, the deficiency should be made up by private operators without concession status or subsidy.

Since hiking, rafting, and other nonconsumptive activities are expected to increase faster than sport hunting and fishing, an increase in demand for guide services in these uses is expected. These services should be met by guides in the private sector who make appropriate application for a commercial use license and report activities annually as requested.

Continued use of existing and temporary campsites, private cabins, and campsites on public lands and the construction and use of new cabins in Aniakchak will be dealt with according to ANILCA and federal regulations.

RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL INFLUENCES

A variety of activities are now or may later be taking place on lands immediately surrounding Aniakchak or elsewhere in the Bristol Bay region. The responses proposed to such influences, as called for in ANILCA section 1301(b)(8), are covered in detail in the "Land Protection Plan." The National Park Service will cooperate with adjacent land managers to the fullest extent allowed by the legislatively determined purposes of Aniakchak, and will play the most positive, responsive role in regional planning consistent with protection of Aniakchak's resources.



LAND PROTECTION PLAN

INTRODUCTION

In May 1982, the Department of the Interior issued a policy statement for use of the federal portion of the Land and Water Conservation Fund which requires that, in carrying out its responsibility for land protection in federally administered areas, each agency using the fund will

identify what lands or interests in land need to be in federal ownership to achieve management purposes consistent with public objectives in the unit

use, to the maximum extent practicable, cost-effective alternatives to direct federal purchase of private lands and, when acquisition is necessary, acquire or retain only the minimum interests necessary to meet management objectives

cooperate with landowners, other federal agencies, state and local governments, and the private sector to protect land for resource conservation or manage it for public use

formulate, or revise as necessary, plans for land acquisition and resource use or protection to ensure that sociocultural impacts are considered and that the most outstanding areas are adequately managed

In response to this policy, the National Park Service requires that a land protection plan be prepared for each unit of the national park system that contains private or other nonfederal land or interest in land within its authorized boundary.

The guiding principle of each land protection plan is to ensure the protection of that unit of the national park system consistent with the stated purposes for which it was created and administered. Land protection plans are prepared to

determine what land or interest in land needs to be in public ownership and what means of protection in addition to fee acquisition are available to achieve the unit purpose as established by Congress

inform landowners about NPS intentions for buying or protecting land within the unit through acquisition or other means

assist managers in identifying priorities for requesting and allocating funds to protect land and unit resources

find opportunities to help protect the unit by cooperating with state and local governments, landowners, and the private sector

The major elements to be addressed by this plan include (1) the identification of nonfederal lands within the boundaries of Aniakchak that need to be protected, (2) the minimum interest in those lands that the

National Park Service must acquire, (3) the recommended means of acquiring the land or interest in land, (4) priorities for protection to ensure that available funds are used to protect the most important resources, (5) impacts of the land protection plan on local residents, (6) the amount, type, and density of private use or development that can take place without harming unit resources, and (7) external activities that have or may have effects on unit resources and land protection requirements.

The major issues for this land protection plan include retention of the natural, undeveloped wilderness-like character of Aniakchak, protection of the watersheds for anadromous and other fish species, and protection of the wildlife resources for subsistence and recreational uses.

This plan does not constitute an offer to purchase land or interest in land; neither does it diminish the rights of nonfederal landowners. The plan is intended to guide subsequent land protection activities subject to the availability of funds and other constraints.

In accordance with section 910 of ANILCA, proposed actions of the land protection plan involving land exchanges with native village and regional corporations are excluded from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) considerations. Thus, proposed land exchanges and cooperative agreements with the Koniag Regional Corporation and proposed relinquishment of selections by the Koniag Regional and Village Corporations do not require NEPA compliance.

Other actions proposed in the land protection plan would cause no significant change in existing land or public use, and are therefore categorically excluded from NEPA considerations, in accordance with the U.S. Department of the Interior implementing procedures (516 DM 6, appendix 7.4, and 516 DM 2, appendix 2). Proposed actions for small tracts and submerged state lands are included in this category.

Table 2 summarizes landownership in Aniakchak and the methods proposed to acquire or otherwise protect remaining nonfederal lands.

PURPOSE OF THE UNIT AND RESOURCES TO BE PROTECTED

Significance and Purpose

As a unit of the national park system, Aniakchak is to be managed "to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wild life therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations" (NPS organic act of 1916). Aniakchak National Monument was established by presidential proclamation in 1978. ANILCA designated the area as Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve to

maintain the [Aniakchak] caldera and its associated features and landscape, including the Aniakchak River and other lakes and streams, in their natural state; to study, interpret, and assure continuation of the natural process of biological succession; to

Table 2: Landownership and Protection Summary

	<u>Acres</u>	<u>Percent of Monument and Preserve</u>
Current Ownership		
Federal land (includes 206,444 acres of selections by native corporations* and individuals)	590,272	98
Nonfederal (native corporations, individuals, and state of Alaska)	12,507	2
Total	602,779	100
Acreage to be Protected (includes selections by native corporations,* individuals, and state of Alaska)	195,775*	
Proposed Methods of Protection		
Fee simple acquisition	152,920*	
Easements	160	
Cooperative agreement	7,577	
Relinquishment of selections	53,382*	

Statutory Acreage Ceiling: None

Funding Status: No funds have been authorized, appropriated, or obligated.

Top Priorities: Fee simple acquisition through exchange of native allotment applications near Surprise and Meshik lakes totaling 140 acres if the applications are approved; acquisition through exchange or purchase of the subsurface and surface estate for 35,118 acres selected by several village corporations within Koniag Inc., if the selections are conveyed; and acquisition through fee simple purchase of subsurface selections of oil and gas rights for 152,780 acres from Koniag Inc., if the selections are conveyed, which may underlie significant wildlife habitat.

*Acreage totals include both surface and subsurface estates.

protect habitat for, and populations of, fish and wildlife, including, but not limited to, brown/grizzly bears, moose, caribou, sea lions, seals, and other marine mammals, geese, swans, and other waterfowl and in a manner consistent with the foregoing, to interpret geological and biological processes for visitors. Subsistence uses by local residents shall be permitted in the monument where such uses are traditional. . . .

The Aniakchak National Wild River was also established by ANILCA in 1980. For additional information, refer to the "General Management Plan."

Resource Description

Natural resources of the monument and preserve are described more fully in the affected environment section of the "Environmental Assessment." The Pacific coastline of Aniakchak is rugged, with cliffs and rocky islands. Peaks of the Aleutian Range rise above it to elevations of 2,000 to 4,000 feet. The primary feature of the unit, Aniakchak caldera, reflects the tremendous forces of volcanism that are operating in the region. Within the caldera are numerous features that typify volcanic activity, including the spring-fed Surprise Lake. Plant communities include wet tundra on the broad lowlands of the Meshik and Cinder River drainages; moist tundra on terraces, coastal lowlands, and subalpine slopes; shrublands lining streams and blanketing gentle lowland slopes; alpine tundra at elevations above 1,000 feet; and coastal dunes and beaches. These habitats support a variety of wildlife species, including caribou, moose, brown bears, wolves, river otters, wolverines, sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, tundra swans and other waterfowl, and shorebirds. Although not documented, the endangered Aleutian Canada goose may migrate through Aniakchak. Streams in the unit provide spawning habitat for sockeye chum, king, and pink salmon, as well as habitat for arctic char, Dolly Varden, and rainbow trout.

Cabins and other historic structures and ruins give evidence of changing lifestyles after Russian contact with native people. Archeological resources, though present, have not been systematically surveyed. More detailed information on cultural resources may be found in the affected environment section of the "Environmental Assessment."

Legislative Authorities

Passage of ANILCA provided a general framework for land protection for the newly established conservation units in Alaska. Section 1302 provides the general authorities for land acquisition. The secretary of the interior is authorized to acquire, by purchase, donation, exchange, or other means, any lands or interests in lands within the monument and preserve. However, any lands or interests in lands owned by the state and local governments or by native village and regional corporations may be acquired only with the consent of the owners. In addition, lands owned by natives, allotted under ANCSA, who received title to the surface estate of lands from a village corporation as a primary place of residence,

business, or subsistence campsite (section 14(c)(1)) or from the secretary of the interior as a primary place of residence (section 14(b)(5)), may be acquired only with the consent of the owner unless the secretary determines that the land is no longer being used for the purpose for which it was conveyed and that the use is or will be detrimental to the purposes of the monument and preserve.

Native allotments or other private small tracts may be acquired without consent only after offering an exchange of other lands of similar characteristics and like value, if available outside the unit, and the owner chooses not to accept the exchange. Exchanges will be complicated by present selections and past conveyances of lands within the state, and the lack of suitable substitute lands.

No improved property will be acquired without the consent of the owner unless such acquisition is necessary for the protection of resources or for protection of those values listed in ANILCA. When an owner of improved property consents to exchange lands or to sell to the United States, the owner may retain a right of use and occupancy for noncommercial residential and recreational use by agreement with the National Park Service.

Sections 1302(i)(1) and (2) of ANILCA authorize the secretary of the interior to acquire, by donation or exchange, state-owned or validly selected lands that are contiguous to the monument or preserve. Any lands so acquired will become part of the unit without reference to the 23,000-acre restriction on minor boundary adjustments as defined in section 103(b).

Section 103(b) states that only the public land within the boundaries of a conservation system unit will be deemed to be included as a portion of the unit. The state, native, and other private lands within the boundaries are not subject to regulations that apply solely to federal lands. If conveyed to the federal government under the provisions cited above, such lands will become part of the unit and be subject to those federal regulations.

In addition to complying with the above legislative and administrative requirements, the National Park Service is required to administer the area as a unit of the national park system pursuant to the provisions of the Act of August 25, 1916 (39 Stat. 535), as amended and supplemented, and in accordance with the provisions of 16 USC, 36 CFR, and other applicable laws and regulations. The National Park Service has proprietary jurisdiction over the federally owned lands in the monument and preserve.

Resource Management and Visitor Use Objectives

Objectives of resource management, visitor use management, and administration of the monument and preserve are given in appendix B. Major objectives include preservation of natural ecosystems that include fish and wildlife populations in their natural diversity, preservation of the wilderness character of the monument and preserve, identification and

protection of archeological and historical resources, and provision for visitor enjoyment and appreciation of the area consistent with the foregoing values.

LANDOWNERSHIP AND USES

Ownership and Use of Nonfederal Lands

The current uses of lands that have been selected and of the approximately 12,507 acres of nonfederal land within the 602,779-acre monument and preserve are as follows (also see Landownership map and table 3):

Native allotment applications for a 60-acre parcel in Aniakchak caldera, an 80-acre parcel on the shore of Meshik Lake, a 10-acre parcel on the North Fork River near Kujulik Bay, and a 150-acre parcel about 1/2 mile upstream on a tributary of the North Fork. Cabin ruins and a cabin are located on the 10-acre parcel. No structures are known to exist on the other parcels.

A 5,147-acre area of patented state land located in the northwest corner of the preserve. No development exists on this tract.

Approximately 2,430 acres of submerged lands lying beneath Aniakchak Lagoon (1,375 acres) and beneath the Aniakchak River from its mouth on Aniakchak Bay to its junction with Albert Johnson Creek (1,055 acres). These water bodies have been determined to be navigable; the beds of navigable waters are owned by the state.

A 4,930-acre tract of land, interimly covered to the Port Lions Village Corporation, located on Cape Kumlik, on the east shore of Amber Bay. The subsurface oil and gas rights on this tract have been interimly conveyed to Koniag Inc.

An area of approximately 152,780 acres on which the subsurface (mineral in-lieu) oil and gas rights have been selected by the Koniag Regional Corporation.

Several tracts, totaling 35,118 acres, located along Kujulik, Amber, and Aniakchak bays, which have been applied for in selections by the Afognak, Larsen Bay, Ouzinkie, and Woody Island village corporations. Scattered cabin ruins exist on these lands, which are undeveloped.

An application by Koniag Inc. for surface rights to a 18,246-acre tract.

Table 3: Tract Summary of Nonfederal Lands or Interests in Aniakchak

<u>Tract</u>	<u>Owner/Applicant</u>	<u>Size (acres)</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Status</u> ¹
A	Graham (Christensen)	80	Meshik Lake	NA-P
B	Graham (Christensen)	60	Aniakchak caldera	NA-P
C	Brandal	10	North Fork/Kujulik Bay	NA-P
D	Brandal	150	North Fork/Kujulik Bay	NA-P
E	Various Koniag villages	35,118	Kujulik, Amber bays	VC-S
F	Port Lions Village Corp.	4,930	Cape Kunmik	VC-IC'd
G	Koniag Regional Corp.	18,246	Aniakchak Bay	RC-S
H	Koniag Regional Corp.	152,780	Various	IL-S
I	Koniag Regional Corp.	1,280	Cape Kunmik	IL-IC'd
J	State of Alaska	5,147	Northeast Preserve	S-P
K	State of Alaska	1,375	Aniakchak Lagoon	S-B
L	State of Alaska	1,055	Aniakchak River	S-B

¹ Abbreviations:

NA-P	Native allotment application--pending
VC-S	Village corporation--selection
VC-IC'd	Village corporation--interimly conveyed
RC-S	Regional corporation--selection
IL-S	Regional corporation in-lieu oil and gas--selection
IL-IC'd	Regional corporation in-lieu oil and gas--interimly conveyed
S-P	State--patented
S-B	State submerged lands under navigable waters

Compatibility of Land Uses

Only one small parcel (tract C--the 10-acre parcel on the North Fork River) appears to have been used in recent years, probably as a base for subsistence activities. There are no year-round residences or commercial facilities in Aniakchak.

Owners of small parcels or native corporation lands may seek to develop sport hunting camps, primarily emphasizing brown bear and moose hunting.

Oil and gas exploration on regional corporation selections is likely. A discovery would probably lead to development of drill sites, access routes, and transportation facilities.

Any activities that result in impairment of the values identified previously are considered incompatible uses of the land. In addition, the establishment of a permanent human population within the boundaries of the monument or preserve is incompatible with preservation of the unit's wilderness character.

Potential uses of nonfederal lands that would be incompatible with the ecological, cultural, wilderness, and recreational values of the unit include the following:

- activities that result in water pollution, sedimentation, or other impairment of anadromous fish-spawning habitat

- contamination of other surface waters or groundwater

- construction of access roads, airstrips, and other surface disturbances that disrupt drainage patterns, accelerate erosion, and increase runoff and sediment loads

- activities that impair wildlife use of habitat on adjacent federal lands

- trapping or hunting that impairs the natural condition of wildlife populations in the monument or that impairs the healthy condition of wildlife populations in the preserve

- disposal of refuse in a manner that attracts bears

- activities that damage or contribute to damage of archeological or historical resources

- intrusion on the wilderness character of scenic vistas

- blocking public access for recreational use

- development of commercial facilities without approval of the National Park Service

Many current or potential uses of nonfederal land are compatible with the purposes and values of the unit. Compatible uses include the following:

- private use of nonfederal lands for residential, recreational, or subsistence activities that do not impact wildlife or other values on adjacent federal lands, as discussed above

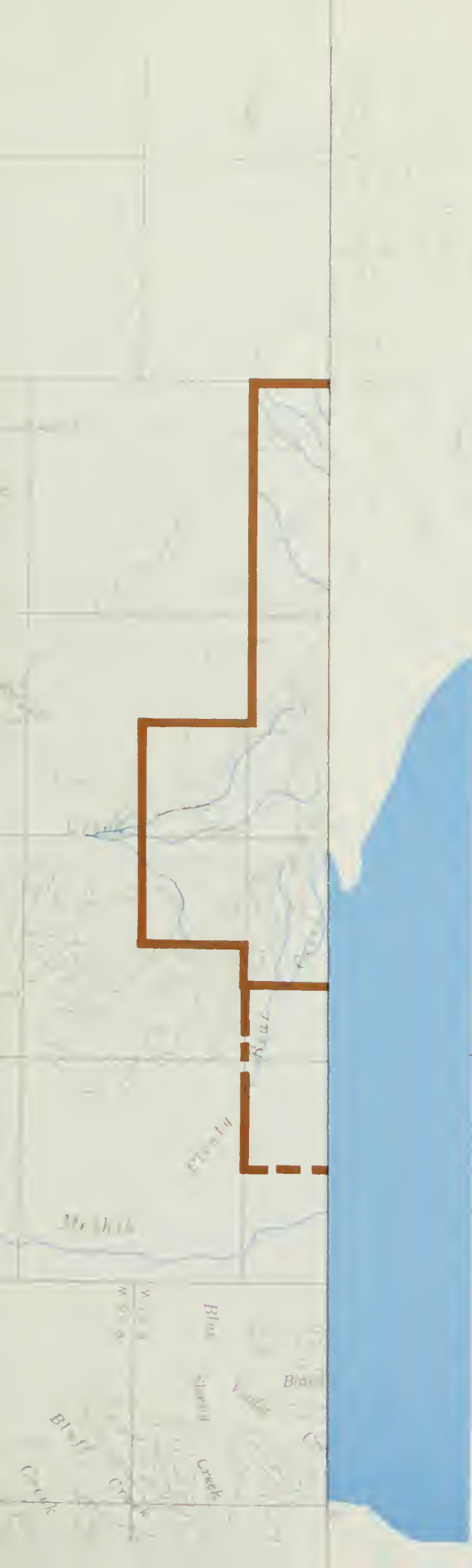
- repair, replacement, or minor modification of existing structures, so long as the structures will blend with the wilderness character of adjacent federal lands

- construction of new residential structures whose appearance blends with the wilderness character of adjacent federal lands

- sale or transfer of property

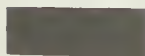
External Conditions Affecting Land Protection

ANILCA Section 103(b) provides for minor boundary adjustments up to 23,000 acres. Section 1302(i) authorizes acquisition by donation or exchange of state-owned or state-selected lands that are contiguous to a conservation unit. Except for these provisions, the National Park Service



A-L

TRACT LETTERS (SEE TEXT)



NATIVE VILLAGE CORPORATION – APPLICATION



STATE LANDS – PATENTED



NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION – APPLICATION



NATIVE VILLAGE CORPORATION – INTERIMLY CONVEYED



SUBSURFACE OIL AND GAS IN-LIEU – SELECTIONS



SUBSURFACE OIL AND GAS IN-LIEU – INTERIMLY CONVEYED



SUBMERGED LANDS – NAVIGABLE WATERS



ALLOTMENT – APPLICATION



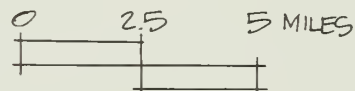
MONUMENT BOUNDARY



PRESERVE BOUNDARY



NORTH

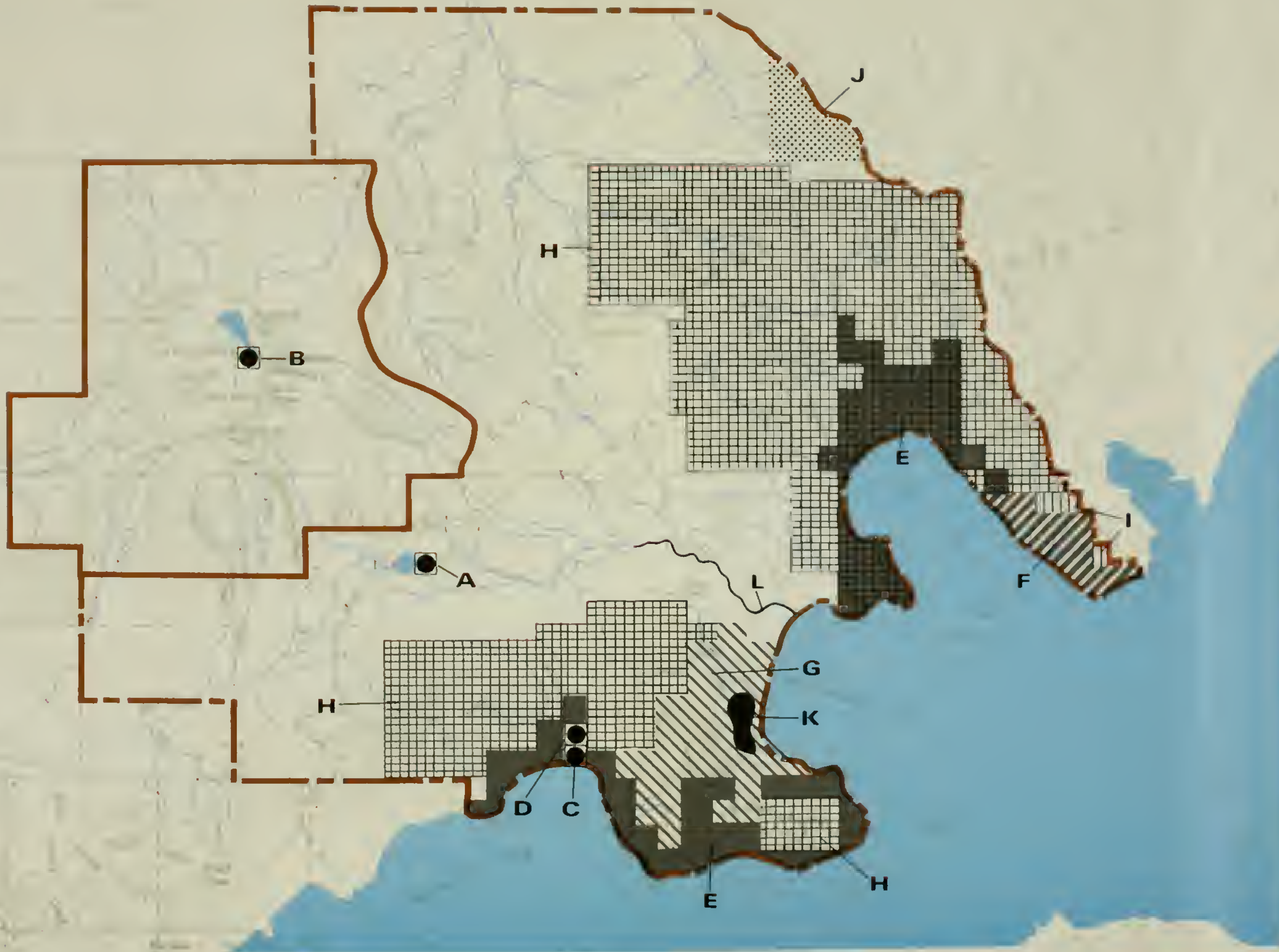


LANDOWNERSHIP ANIAKCHAK

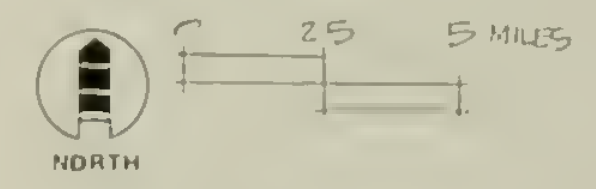
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- A-L** TRACT LETTERS (SEE TEXT)
- NATIVE VILLAGE CORPORATION - APPLICATION
- STATE LANDS - PATENTED
- NATIVE REGIONAL CORPORATION - APPLICATION
- NATIVE VILLAGE CORPORATION - INTERIMLY CONVEYED
- SUBSURFACE OIL AND GAS IN-LIEU - SELECTIONS
- SUBSURFACE OIL AND GAS IN-LIEU - INTERIMLY CONVEYED
- SUBMERGED LANDS - NAVIGABLE WATERS
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cannot acquire interests in lands outside the unit. Nevertheless, the use of lands outside the unit can affect the integrity of resources as well as the quality of visitors' experiences within the unit--in a positive way if the uses are harmonious with the unit's mission, or in a negative way if they conflict with or detract from it.

Lands adjacent to Aniakchak consist primarily of state-selected and federally owned (Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge) lands. Several tracts within the refuge and abutting the preserve are native-selected or conveyed lands (see Adjacent Land Status and External Influences map).

The recently released Bristol Bay Area Plan for State Lands (State of Alaska 1984) documents a variety of activities that could potentially occur on lands in the Aniakchak area. Primary uses of state lands adjacent to Aniakchak are to be fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, recreation, and oil and gas development. Mineral exploration and community expansion are encouraged on lands south of Aniakchak.

Ongoing and proposed activities on adjacent lands that could affect Aniakchak include onshore and offshore oil and gas exploration and development, active mineral exploration and development, a north-south transportation corridor and other road development, land disposal and subdivision, sport hunting, commercial fishing, recreational development, and subsistence activities. A potential trans-peninsula transportation and pipeline corridor from Port Heiden to Kujulik Bay, immediately south of Aniakchak, has been identified. An alternate route would travel through the preserve to Kujulik Bay or Aniakchak Bay.

Past Acquisition Activities and Current Protection Program

Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve was only recently established (1980) and has not acquired any land or interests in land subsequent to establishment. There have been no funds authorized, appropriated, or spent for acquisition in Aniakchak, nor is there any statutory acreage ceiling. This plan is the first to develop and prioritize a land protection program for Aniakchak.

Sociocultural Characteristics

There are two very general patterns in the relationship between the private lands in the monument and preserve and their local sociocultural context. The two small tracts were claimed by local people who, now or in the past, may have used these sites as a part of their subsistence lifestyle. While commercial fishing in Bristol Bay dominates activities in the summer months and is the mainstay of the regional economy, activities during much of the remainder of the year focus on trapping, hunting, or subsistence fishing. Lands selected by Koniag village corporations are likely to be used to generate economic returns through resource development or sale of the land.

BBAP RECOMMENDS
EXCHANGE OF NATIVE LANDS
WITH STATE LANDS IN
CRITICAL HABITAT AREA

ALASKA
PENINSULA NWR

POSSIBLE TRANSFER
OF STATE LANDS TO
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

POTENTIAL OIL
AND GAS
DEVELOPMENT

BBAP RECOMMENDS
STATE CLOSE NAVIGATIONAL
WATERS INSIDE BOUNDARY
TO MINERAL ENTRY

BBAP RECOMMENDS STATE
RELINQUISH SELECTIONS
TO NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

POSSIBLE FUTURE REGIONAL
CORPORATION SELECTION IN
THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

POSSIBLE DEEP-WATER
PORT TERMINAL FOR OIL
AND GAS

ADJACENT LAND STATUS AND EXTERNAL INFLUENCES ANIAKCHAK

NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE
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MONUMENT BOUNDARY

PRESERVE BOUNDARY

COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP

AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING
(UNIMPROVED)

VILLAGE BUILDINGS

CABINS

NATIVE LAND

NATIVE APPLICATION

STATE LAND

STATE APPLICATION

OIL AND GAS RIGHTS (KONIG)

POSSIBLE FUTURE OIL AND GAS PIPELINE

PREFERRED

ALTERNATIVES



LAND PROTECTION ALTERNATIVES

Land Protection Laws and Authorities

Federal. Mining activity in areas of the national park system is governed by PL 94-429 as implemented through regulations in 36 CFR 9A.

Affirmative responsibilities for preservation of cultural resources by federal agencies is established by Executive Order 11593 (Protection and Enhancement of the Cultural Environment; May 13, 1941) and PL 96-515, section 110 (National Historic Preservation Act of 1966; as amended, December 12, 1980). Agencies are directed to identify, consider, preserve, and positively use cultural resources to achieve the following objectives:

Foster conditions, through measures including financial and technical assistance, under which our modern society and our prehistoric and historic resources can exist in productive harmony and fulfill the social, economic, and other requirements of present and future generations.

Provide leadership in the preservation of the prehistoric and historic resources of the United States and of the international community of nations.

Administer federally owned or controlled prehistoric and historic resources in a spirit of stewardship for the inspiration and benefit of present and future generations.

Contribute to the preservation of nonfederally owned prehistoric and historic resources and provide encouragement to organizations and individuals undertaking preservation by private means.

Encourage the public and private preservation and compatible use of historic structures.

Assist state and local governments and the National Trust for Historic Preservation to expand and accelerate their historic preservation programs and activities.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of federally assisted undertakings on properties listed or eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places, and to give the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on such undertakings.

The Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (PL 93-291; 16 USC 460) calls for the preservation of historic and archeological materials and data that would otherwise be lost as a result of federal construction or federally licensed or aided activities. Data recovery or in situ preservation is available to the secretary of the interior.

The Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (PL 96-95; 16 USC 470aa) further protects historic, prehistoric, and archeological properties

on federal and Indian lands by providing criminal and civil penalties against unauthorized use and destruction of those properties.

The Coastal Zone Management Act (PL 92-583, as amended in 1976 and 1980) establishes a national policy and develops a national program for the management, beneficial use, protection, and development of the land and water resources of the nation's coastal zones. While this act establishes national goals for coastal zones, it also provides substantial state discretion in interpreting and achieving its goals. After a state program has been approved by the Office of Coastal Zone Management, federal activities affecting the state's coastal zone are to be consistent with the state program. The provision applies not only to federal construction, but also to permits, licenses, and grants. Most activities on federal lands are exempt from these consistency requirements.

The Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area, which encompasses Aniakchak, has an approved coastal management program. Its goal is to achieve wise use of the land and water resources of the coastal area, balancing ecological, cultural, and economic values so as to maintain and protect coastal resources for the beneficial use and enjoyment of this and future generations. Activities occurring on federal lands that directly affect state coastal resources are subject to compliance with the Coastal Zone Management Program. The program's objectives most related to the mission of Aniakchak and the protection of its resources are as follows:

- Ensure that development activity occurs in a manner that has no, or minimal, impact on important fish and wildlife populations.

- Encourage the development of community land use planning efforts so that they may expand in a careful manner; avoid the creation of new communities.

- Ensure that state, federal, and native lands made available for private development are thoroughly evaluated and shown to be physically capable of supporting the intended use.

- Identify areas of high recreational value and use, and ensure that these areas retain the unique qualities that resulted in their identification.

- Ensure that public access to recreational areas is maintained.

Title XI of ANILCA provides rules and guidelines concerning access to private lands within conservation units. Specifically, sections 1101-1109 concern transportation and utility rights-of-way, and section 1110 concerns access to homesites and access for traditional activities.

State and Local. The Anadromous Fish Act (AS 16.05.870) provides protection to specific rivers, lakes, and streams or sections of them that are important for the spawning, rearing, or migration of anadromous fish. A number of water bodies in the unit, including the Aniakchak, Meshik, and Cinder rivers, are designated anadromous fish streams specifically protected by this act. The act requires any person or government

agency that desires to construct a hydraulic project, or to use, divert, obstruct, pollute, or change the natural flow or bed of a specified river, lake, or stream, or to use wheeled, tracked, or excavating equipment or log-dragging equipment in the bed of a specified river, lake, or stream to notify the commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation of this intention before beginning the construction or use.

Alternative Means of Land Protection

Potential methods of land protection include cooperative agreements; Alaska Land Bank; coordination with other agencies; regulations; less-than-fee acquisition or easement; fee simple acquisition; and a combination of methods. Each alternative would provide some degree of protection to the ecological, cultural, wilderness, and recreational values of Aniakchak's federal and nonfederal lands. The application, sociocultural effects, and potential effectiveness of each alternative are considered below.

Cooperative Agreements. A cooperative agreement is a written description of how two or more parties will take certain actions. Advantages of cooperative agreements include their flexibility, relative low cost, and ability to establish cooperative arrangements for management. Disadvantages include procedural requirements, the ability of one party to terminate the agreement on short notice, and lack of permanent protection.

Application: An agreement can provide for the exchange or transfer of services, funds, or benefits. Some of the elements that could be addressed in an agreement for land protection include

- access for resource management activities
- routine maintenance or restoration
- enforcement of resource protection laws
- other law enforcement
- joint review of permit applications
- interpretive services

Sociocultural effects: Specific effects depend on the terms of the agreement. Since, by definition, most of the interested parties would agree with its terms, it is unlikely that a cooperative agreement would have negative or adverse effects.

Effectiveness: Agreements are likely to be most effective for lands owned by entities other than individuals. These include corporations, state or local governments, federal agencies, and nonprofit organizations. Agreements are more likely to be workable with these groups than with individuals because organizations often have the necessary staff, equipment, and financial resources to develop a worthwhile agreement in the first place and then to carry out the terms of the agreement over a long period of time.

Cooperative agreements are appropriate when both parties have similar or compatible management objectives. They can be used as interim

protective measures when long-term goals cannot be immediately achieved. The expenditure of federal funds to provide permanent facilities under potentially short-term cooperative agreements is generally prohibited.

Alaska Land Bank. Section 907 of ANILCA established the Alaska Land Bank program to provide legal and economic benefits to native landowners and to provide for the protective maintenance of nonfederal lands, particularly where the lands relate to conservation system units.

Application: Land Bank agreements may contain provisions such as the landowner's responsibility to manage land in a manner compatible with the planned management of the unit. The superintendent's responsibility is also defined. It may include technical and other assistance such as fire management, trespass control, resource and land use planning, and other services, with or without reimbursement as agreed upon by the parties involved. Native corporation lands (but not native allotments or small patented tracts) would have immunity from adverse possession, real property taxes, and assessments when included in the Land Bank. They would also be immune to judgment in any action of law or equity to recover sums owed or penalties incurred by any native corporation or group or any officer, director, or stockholder of the corporation or group. Land Bank agreements may be particularly important in cooperating with native corporations that own large tracts of land in and adjacent to conservation system units.

Sociocultural impacts and effectiveness are essentially the same as for cooperative agreements (see above).

Coordination With Other Agencies. Actions by federal and local agencies to permit, license, or provide financial assistance may have significant effects on resources of the monument or preserve. Under provisions of NEPA, major federal actions are subject to public review processes to ensure adequate consideration of possible effects on the environment. The Coastal Zone Management Program also provides opportunities for review of permitting and funding activities that may have a significant effect on resources of the monument or preserve. Actions of special concern include federal grants, loans and loan guarantees for new development, road improvements, pipeline and utility corridors, sewage treatment facilities, and solid waste disposal.

As a concerned neighbor and land manager, the National Park Service can help ensure that other agencies are fully aware of any effects that proposed actions may have on resources of the monument or preserve. Participation in public hearings and review processes is one means of expressing NPS concerns. Coordination may also be aided by memoranda of understanding or by requesting in advance that the National Park Service be notified when certain actions are being considered. Participation by the Park Service in project or permit review processes will help encourage the most compatible design, location, and operation of new developments.

Regulations. As discussed below, regulatory controls stemming from authority vested in federal, state, and local governments may be available to help protect unit resources.

Application: Regulations are most useful for modifying the nature, level, and duration of activities. For example, federal, state, and local regulations often impose strict limits on dredging or filling of wetlands that would destroy wildlife habitat or degrade water quality. Local subdivision and environmental regulations may restrict residential development that is not adequately served by water and sewage treatment facilities.

Sociocultural effects: Although with the adoption of regulations, developed with public involvement, individual landowners may be prevented from using their land in some ways, but this restriction on individual freedom results in benefit to the community as a whole.

Effectiveness: Where the impact of development is already evident, regulations are more likely to be effective in reducing the adverse effects of major projects. In relatively pristine areas, regulations may be of little use in preserving natural systems from any intrusion or development. Regulations are also more likely to be effective where there is a good base of information about the impacts that certain activities will have on unit resources.

Guidance and controls for public use and recreational activities in national park system units is provided in 36 CFR. While some of the regulations apply to nonfederal lands and waters, they are applicable only in units where the National Park Service has exclusive or concurrent jurisdiction; i.e., where the state has ceded enforcement authority to the federal government. Thus, the CFR regulations do not provide land protection to nonfederal lands in Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

Easements. Landownership may be envisioned as a package of rights. An easement conveys some of the rights from one owner to another, while the rest of the rights of ownership remain unchanged.

Application: Easements are most useful where

some, but not all, existing or potential private uses of the land are compatible with protection of unit resources

the owners desire to continue their occupancy and current uses of the land under conditions conveyed to the National Park Service

scenic values, resource protection, or access by the public or the Park Service is necessary only over a portion of the land

Easements may be used to convey a right of access, ensure the preservation of scenic values, maintain existing land uses, or limit existing or potential uses. Terms of an easement depend on the resource and concern, the topography, and the current or potential use and development of a specific tract. For example, the provisions of an easement to protect unit resources might address the following points: clearing of vegetation; density, height, and design of new structures; and NPS access for management of natural and cultural resources.

Sociocultural effects: Individual and cumulative effects will depend on the rights acquired. Overall, effects would likely be beneficial since the easements would contribute to the protection of ecological, cultural, wilderness, and recreational values of the monument and preserve.

On large tracts, the development of specific terms for easements would require detailed site planning to identify the most environmentally sensitive areas and the areas where development might be accommodated with minimal impacts. The development of specific terms can be a cooperative effort to ensure that development follows traditional patterns of land use and avoids any unnecessary disturbance of the natural system.

Effectiveness: Because easements are enforceable property rights, they are binding on future owners and thus provide greater assurance of permanent protection than do agreements or zoning ordinances. Advantages of easements include

- continuation of private ownership and use subject to the terms of the easement

- initial costs potentially lower than for fee acquisition, thus permitting the protection of more land

- less impact on local property taxes than fee acquisition

Disadvantages of easements rather than fee acquisition include

- potential difficulty in enforcement of easement terms

- frequent violations due to unfamiliarity of the landowners with less-than-fee ownership

- relatively high cost to acquire undeveloped properties where any development would be incompatible with unit values

- higher cost to monitor compliance with the terms and conditions of the easement

- higher cost of operation by the National Park Service than with fee acquisition

Fee Acquisition. When all of the interests in the land are acquired, it is owned in fee simple. Fee acquisition may be recommended when other methods are inefficient or inadequate to meet land protection needs.

Application: Fee acquisition is most often appropriate where

- the land is owned by individuals who are not willing to sell a less-than-fee interest

- the land must be maintained in a natural condition that precludes private use

resources of concern cannot be protected by alternative methods, or the alternatives would not be cost-effective

the land is needed for development of unit facilities or for intensive public use

Sociocultural effects: This method has the potential to significantly affect the individual or community involved. Residents would be dislocated unless their use and occupancy was reserved.

Effectiveness: Fee simple acquisition is the most effective and secure method of land protection although, in the short term, it is also generally the most expensive method. Advantages of fee acquisition include

- provision for permanent NPS control over human activities and resource use on the tract

- provision for full access and development where needed

- continuation of private use and occupancy where reserved

- landowners' familiarity with fee simple ownership

- lower cost of operation than with easements

Disadvantages of fee acquisition include

- initial cost of acquisition

- dislocation of residents, unless use and occupancy are reserved, and reduction in local property tax base

- requirements for management and maintenance, especially on developed land

Combination of Methods. Because of the diversity of lands and resources in the monument and preserve, no single method is adequate and cost-effective in every land protection situation. A combination of methods is likely to be more useful in ensuring that land uses within and adjacent to the monument and preserve are compatible with protection of unit values.

Application: The major consideration in selecting appropriate land protection methods is the need for compliance with the intent of the congressional legislation, executive orders, and proclamations that established the monument and preserve. These authorities emphasize the preservation and protection of Aniakchak's ecological, cultural, wilderness, and recreational values, and the National Park Service will, in all cases, seek the land protection needed to fulfill this obligation. In some cases fee acquisition may be necessary and justified to protect key resources essential to the purpose of the unit or to provide for public use or improved resource management. Scenic easements may be effective in protecting the unit from incompatible development that would impair resources and detract from the visitor's experience.

Cooperative agreements with state agencies responsible for land management within the unit may ensure that the use of those lands will be consistent with unit purposes. Although regulations are not a substitute for the acquisition of land interests, the National Park Service will take advantage of opportunities to use regulations to maintain existing land uses and environmental quality within the monument and preserve.

Sociocultural effects: The objective of the land protection program of Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve is to ensure that the integrity of the unit is preserved. Implementation of the actions recommended in the following sections would have some impacts on nonfederal landowners in the monument and preserve.

Effectiveness: Implementation of the recommended plan will be effective in complying with congressional mandates for the unit and with the Department of the Interior policy to guide federal acquisition of nonfederal property rights.

Methods of Acquisition

There are four primary methods for acquisition of fee and less-than-fee interest in lands. These are described in the paragraphs that follow.

Donation. Landowners may be willing to donate their land or certain property rights in order to achieve conservation objectives. The tax benefits of donation may be an important consideration. Donations of fee are deductible from taxable income. Though subject to IRS requirements, easement donations may also be deductible.

Landowners are encouraged to consult their accountants or tax consultants to discuss in detail the advantages of donations. NPS representatives may be able to provide some general examples of tax advantages, but they cannot provide definitive tax advice.

Exchange. Land or land interests may be acquired by exchange. The land to be exchanged must be located within Alaska and must be of approximately equal value. Cash payments may be made for differences in value.

The National Park Service will also consider an exchange for other federal lands within the unit boundary in order to consolidate ownerships into more manageable units.

Other federal lands in Alaska that are surplus to agency needs would normally go through disposition procedures, including public sale. The National Park Service will work with the Bureau of Land Management and the General Services Administration to identify such federal lands that may be available for exchange purposes.

Purchase. Acquisition by purchase requires that funds be appropriated by Congress or donated from private sources. Donations of funds or purchases of land by individuals or organizations interested in holding land for conservation purposes will be encouraged.

Relinquishment. State and native corporation lands that are under application may be relinquished, resulting in fee acquisition by the National Park Service. The relinquishing entity can use the allocation for acreage being relinquished to acquire other lands outside the unit.

RECOMMENDATIONS

General

The recommended means of land protection for nonfederal land in Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve are indicated in order of priority below and summarized on the Land Protection Priorities map. Owners or applicants, acreages involved, minimum interest needed for protection, justification, and proposed method of acquisition are also given. It should be noted that priorities may be readjusted if incompatible uses develop.

The actual means of acquisition of land or land interest may change through negotiation. If acquisition of land is appropriate, an exchange of land is the preferred method. Donation of the land will be encouraged. Acquisition by purchase will be limited by scarcity of land acquisition funds. Condemnation is usually avoided, although it may be used in emergencies to prevent imminent land use activities that would severely damage the integrity of unit values.

Land Protection Priorities

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Tract</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Owner/Applicant</u>	<u>Acres</u>
1	A,B	AA007073	Graham (Christensen), Virginia	140

Analysis: Tract A (80 acres) is at the northeast corner of Meshik Lake. The parcel is generally flat, though it rises at the north end. Floatplanes can land on Meshik Lake. If the application is approved, potential development of the parcel may be as a sporthunting camp. Brown bears occur at extremely high densities in the area north of Meshik Lake. Alternatively, the parcel may be developed as a staging area for rafters beginning a float trip on the Meshik River or for hikers bound for Aniakchak caldera. Such development would not be consistent with the general management plan, which calls for no public facilities of any kind.

Tract B (60 acres) is along the Aniakchak National Wild River near its headwaters in Surprise Lake in the caldera. It is on a flat ash field vegetated with sparse grass and herbaceous plants, becoming very swampy near the river. Floatplanes can land on Surprise Lake, and wheeled aircraft may be able to land on the outwash plain 1/2 mile northwest of the site; however, inclement weather commonly precludes aircraft from entering the caldera. Potential uses of the parcel include fishing for sockeye salmon in the Aniakchak River or using the site as a

base for subsistence activities in the caldera. Development of a commercial recreation operation would conflict with the general management plan and is unlikely due to frequently inclement weather and other logistic difficulties. Construction of any structures on the site, including seasonal residential structures, would significantly affect the scenic wilderness character of the vast expanse within the caldera.

Minimum Interest Needed: If the application for either of these parcels is approved, the National Park Service will seek to acquire it in fee through exchange.

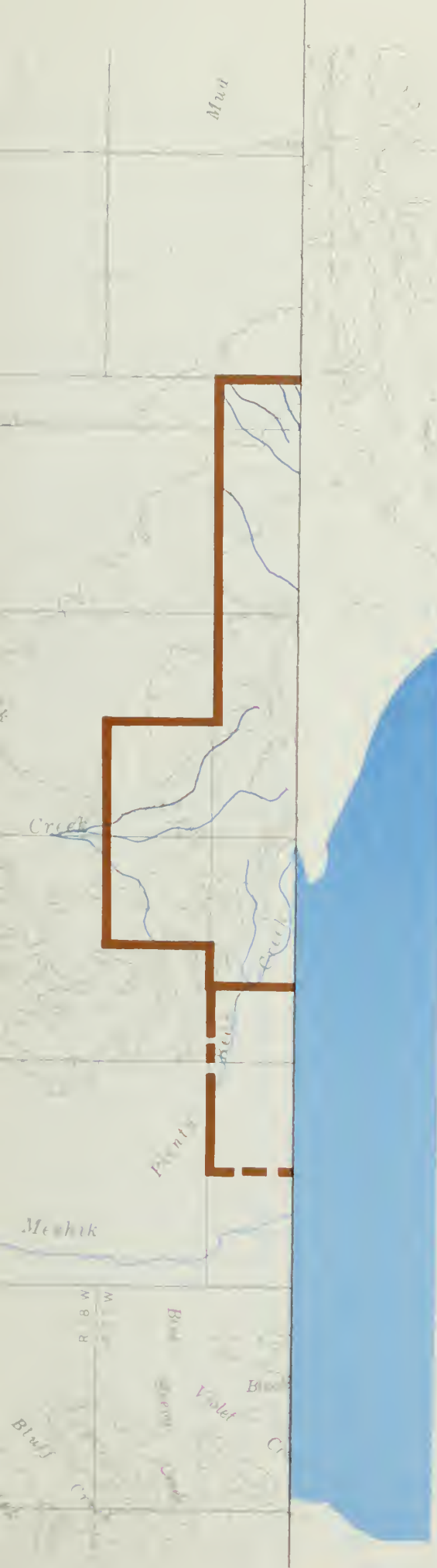
<u>Priority</u>	<u>Tract</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Owner/Applicant</u>	<u>Acres</u>
2	E	Numerous	Various Koniag villages,	35,118
	F		Port Lions Village Corp.	4,930
	G		Koniag Inc.	18,246

Analysis: Tract E, an area totaling 35,118 acres along the coast of the preserve in Kujulik, Aniakchak, and Amber bays, has been applied for by several village corporations within Koniag Inc. (ANCSA 14(h)(8)). These selections were permitted due to a lack of lands available for selection near the villages on Kodiak and Afognak Islands. They encompass approximately 75 percent of the preserve's coastline, including virtually all of Amber and Kujulik bays. The land varies from flat, wet lowlands to the steep, rocky headland of Cape Kumlik. Brown bears concentrate along salmon-spawning streams. Waterfowl use the lowland for nesting, and the rocky coast has haulout and resting areas for marine mammals as well as nesting areas for seabirds.

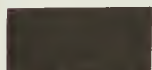
Approximately 4,930 acres (tract F) have been interrimly conveyed to the Port Lions Village Corporation, and the rights to subsurface oil and gas have been interrimly conveyed to Koniag Inc. This land is contiguous to a tract immediately to the east, on Yantarni Bay in the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge, and facilitates oil and gas exploration in the area by Koniag. Oil and gas development and construction of port facilities would involve a potentially large influx of population into the Yantarni Bay area just outside the boundaries of the preserve. A significant increase in sporthunting (primarily for bears) and other recreational uses would consequently be likely.

Koniag Inc. has selected 18,246 acres (tract G). Conveyance would give Koniag the surface estate as well as subsurface oil and gas rights to this area, which is located near but not on the coast of Aniakchak and Kujulik bays. The most likely potential use is for facilities related to oil and gas exploration.

ANILCA 1427(b) established a procedure whereby all these selections can be relinquished in exchange for lands within Chugach National Forest on Afognak Island. Negotiations for this exchange, involving the villages, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and other parties, are nearly complete, making relinquishment likely. However, in the event relinquishment does not take place, potential land uses might



HIGH PRIORITY (1, 2, or 3)
INCLUDES TRACTS A , B, E, F, G, H, I



LOWER PRIORITY (4, 5, or 6)
INCLUDES TRACTS C, D, J, K, L



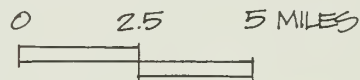
MONUMENT BOUNDARY



PRESERVE BOUNDARY



NORTH



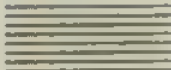

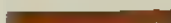
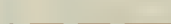
LAND PROTECTION PRIORITIES ANIAKCHAK

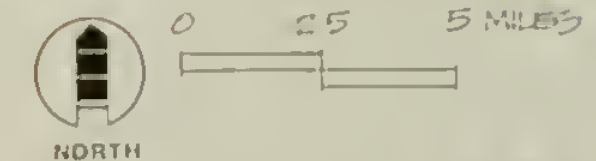
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-  HIGH PRIORITY (1, 2, or 3)
INCLUDES TRACTS A, B, E, F, G, H, I
-  LOWER PRIORITY (4, 5, or 6)
INCLUDES TRACTS C, D, J, K, L
-  MONUMENT BOUNDARY
-  PRESERVE BOUNDARY



LAND PROTECTION PRIORITIES

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include subsistence activities by individuals or development of sport hunting or recreation facilities. If such uses resulted in restrictions on public use on these lands, the only coastal area of Aniakchak remaining available to the public would be in Aniakchak Bay. If Koniag villages began to use the area for subsistence activities, conflicts could develop with residents of the Chignik villages, who are the traditional subsistence users of the area. Facility development would conflict with the general management plan.

Minimum Interest Needed: If tracts E and G selected by the regional and village corporations are conveyed, the National Park Service will seek acquisition of the surface rights through exchange in order to ensure protection of the resource, subsistence, and wilderness recreation values.

The National Park Service will also seek acquisition of surface rights for the lands conveyed to Port Lions (tract F) through exchange to ensure protection of wildlife populations and other resource values, subsistence opportunities, and wilderness recreation values.

For any lands that are conveyed to villages, title to subsurface oil and gas will pass to Koniag Inc. As discussed for tract I below, the National Park Service would also seek fee simple acquisition of the subsurface rights to ensure protection of fish and wildlife, water quality, and other resource values; subsistence values; and wilderness recreation values of the area.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Tract</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Owner/Applicant</u>	<u>Acres</u>
3	H	Numerous	Koniag Inc.	152,780
	I		Koniag Inc.	1,280

Analysis: Subsurface rights to approximately 152,780 acres, about 25 percent of the preserve, have been selected by the Koniag Regional Corporation under ANCSA 12(a)(1) and 14(f) and ANILCA 1427(g)(3), in lieu of selections from lands contiguous to villages, as provided in ANCSA 11(a)(1). In accordance with ANILCA 1427(l), these rights pertain only to oil and gas and the surface sand and gravel necessary to prospect for, extract, store, or remove oil and gas. The federal government would retain the other subsurface and surface rights.

This area has unknown to low potential for oil and gas. Several major river drainages lie in the area, including rivers that flow into Kujulik and Amber bays as well as the headwaters of the Cinder and King Salmon rivers. High concentrations of brown bears occur along salmon-spawning streams. Attraction of bears to food or garbage associated with exploration or development operations would likely result in destruction of the bears. The area is also used by caribou for calving and migration.

In addition to the in-lieu selections of tract H, Koniag Inc. has received interim conveyance of subsurface in-lieu oil and gas rights to 1,280 acres (tract I). As with the Port Lions tract, these subsurface rights were taken to facilitate oil exploration in the adjacent Yantarni Bay. Surface

rights on tract I are federally owned. Neither the in-lieu selections (tract H) nor the in-lieu conveyed rights (tract I) would be affected by relinquishment of other lands in the Afognak Island exchange.

Where oil and gas rights are actually conveyed, any exploration or development operations must involve consultation with the surface owner and be in accordance with environmental protection guidelines outlined in 50 CFR 29.32, which provide that, "to the greatest extent possible," damage, erosion, pollution, and contamination of the land and water and their resources should be prevented, and that the character and condition of the land prior to such use would be restored.

Minimum Interest Needed: Because operations conducted even under strict controls may contaminate watersheds and impair fishery habitat and populations, the National Park Service will seek fee simple acquisition of these subsurface rights, if conveyed to ensure protection of fish and wildlife, water quality, and other resource values; subsistence values; and wilderness recreation values of the area. Highest priority will be given to the most ecologically important resource values and to the most attractive visitor use areas. Protecting the upper watersheds of Aniakchak and Meshik rivers is essential to preserving the pristine water quality and undisturbed character of these rivers. It is equally important to protect broad corridors along the main river channels and all of Aniakchak Bay from the levels of human activity and scenic intrusion associated with oil and gas development and transportation facilities.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Tract</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Owner/Applicant</u>	<u>Acres</u>
4	J	AA005310	State of Alaska	5,147

Analysis: Tract J is part of a larger area owned or selected by the state and borders much of the northwest side of Aniakchak. Situated at the headwaters of Pumice Creek within the preserve boundary, this tract has now been patented to the state. The land is currently undeveloped, and potential development is speculative. The Bristol Bay Area Plan for State Lands designates fish and wildlife habitat and harvest, recreation, and oil and gas as primary uses of state lands in this area. No major wildlife concentrations are known to exist on tract J, and the primary natural values are geological. No backpacking destinations have been identified, and this portion of Pumice Creek is not conducive to rafting. The tract has some potential for oil and gas discovery and considerable potential for copper and molybdenum. The state plan proposes that the tract be considered for possible exchange to the National Park Service, for unspecified lands in return, or that it be managed under a cooperative agreement with the National Park Service.

Minimum Interest Needed: Since the ultimate interest needed is fee title, the National Park Service will participate in discussions concerning a possible land exchange. Meanwhile, the Park Service will seek a cooperative agreement with the state to preclude mining and ensure protection of healthy wildlife populations, water quality of Pumice Creek, and other resource values.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Tract</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Owner/Applicant</u>	<u>Acres</u>
5	C,D	AA006023	Brandal, Alex, Jr.	160

Analysis: Tract C consists of a 10-acre parcel along the North Fork River near Kujulik Bay, and tract D is a 150-acre parcel $\frac{1}{2}$ mile upstream straddling a tributary to the North Fork. One cabin and several cabin ruins are located on the smaller parcel. Access to the smaller parcel is primarily by boat. Access to the larger parcel is by foot up the river. Wheeled aircraft can land on an ash field $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of the larger parcel. The tract could potentially be used as a seasonal base for personal hunting and trapping activities or developed commercially as a base for sporthunting. Development of any public recreation facilities would conflict with the general management plan.

Minimum Interest Needed: Acquisition of fee title is not required, and therefore, if the application was approved, the National Park Service will seek a conservation easement to protect the natural resource values.

<u>Priority</u>	<u>Tract</u>	<u>Serial No.</u>	<u>Owner/Applicant</u>	<u>Acres</u>
6	K	--	State of Alaska	1,375
	L		State of Alaska	1,055

Analysis: The Submerged Lands Act of 1953 and the Alaska Statehood Act of 1958 provide for state ownership of the beds of navigable waters to the "ordinary high water mark." Determination of which waters are navigable is an ongoing process in Alaska at both administrative and judicial levels. At present the Aniakchak River upstream to Albert Johnson Creek (tract L) and Aniakchak Lagoon (tract K) have been administratively determined navigable by the Bureau of Land Management.

Minimum Interest Needed: The National Park Service will seek to negotiate a cooperative agreement with the state, and recommends that the state close its submerged lands within the preserve to all forms of appropriation under state laws, including mining claim entries, gravel extraction, and oil and gas leasing. This is necessary to ensure protection of water quality, fish-spawning habitat, healthy populations of wildlife that use aquatic or riparian habitats, and wilderness values.

The National Park Service will assist the state in fulfilling procedural requirements to effect such a closure. This would complement the intent of ANILCA (section 206), which closed Aniakchak's federal land to all forms of appropriation or disposal under the public land laws.



ANIAKCHAK WILD RIVER MANAGEMENT PLAN

MANDATES FOR MANAGEMENT

Section 601(27) of ANILCA designated the Aniakchak River ". . . including its major tributaries, Hidden Creek, Mystery Creek, Albert Johnson Creek, and North Fork Aniakchak River, within Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve . . ." as a component of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (PL 90-542, October 2, 1968). The designation includes about 32 river miles of the main stem of the Aniakchak River from Surprise Lake to Aniakchak Bay, and about 31 river miles of the designated tributaries.

Section 605 of ANILCA directed that the Aniakchak River be administered as a wild river pursuant to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended (16 USC 1274(a)). The act established a national wild and scenic rivers system and the following policy:

. . . that certain selected rivers of the Nation which, with their immediate environments, possess outstandingly remarkable scenic, recreational, geological, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values, shall be preserved in free-flowing condition, and that they and their immediate environments shall be protected for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. The Congress declares that the established national policy of dam and other construction at appropriate sections of the rivers of the United States needs to be complemented by a policy that would preserve other selected rivers or sections thereof in their free-flowing condition to protect the water quality of such rivers and to fulfill other vital national conservation purposes.

MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

Section 10(a) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act establishes the following as general management objectives for each river in the national system:

Each component of the national wild and scenic river system will be administered in such manner as to protect and enhance the values that caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration primary emphasis will be given to protecting its aesthetic, scenic, historic, archeological, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development, based on the special attributes of the area.

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Section 605(d) of ANILCA further directed that a management plan for each designated river be developed in accordance with provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. For those designated rivers contained within national park areas, this is being done as part of the general management plan for the park area in which the river is located.

Because other mandates for management of Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve meet or exceed and are compatible with management standards established by the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, establishing river corridor boundaries within the monument and preserve would serve no useful management purpose.

Since the focus of use in the preserve and monument is on the caldera and river corridor, that is where the majority of potential impacts (and therefore management) will occur. Accordingly, a plan for the monument and preserve is in essence a plan for the river. Therefore, in this general management plan, river management has been integrated with other aspects of visitor use and resource management for the preserve (refer to "General Management Plan" and "Land Protection Plan"). Management of the river would also follow the "Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification, and Management of River Areas" (Federal Register, Vol. 47, No. 173, September 7, 1982--see appendix H) and the guidelines developed in "A Synopsis for Guiding Management of Wild, Scenic and Recreational River Areas in Alaska," which was adopted by the Alaska Land Use Council in November 1982. As conditions warrant (e.g., increases in visitor use, resource degradation), a river management plan might be developed to address specific problems occurring along the Aniakchak River.

WILDERNESS SUITABILITY REVIEW

A review of all lands within the monument and preserve regarding their suitability or nonsuitability for preservation as wilderness has been accomplished in accordance with section 1317 of ANILCA and section 3 of the Wilderness Act.

The Wilderness Act created a national wilderness preservation system to be made up of federally owned lands designated by Congress. The intent was to "secure for the American people of present and future generations the benefits of an enduring resource of wilderness." The act defines wilderness as follows:

A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is . . . an area where the earth, and its community of life are untrammelled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain. An area of wilderness is . . . an area of undeveloped federal land retaining its primeval character and influence, without permanent improvements or human habitation, which is protected and managed so as to preserve its natural conditions and which (1) generally appears to have been affected primarily by the forces of nature, with the imprint of man's work substantially unnoticeable; (2) has outstanding opportunities for solitude or a primitive and unconfined type of recreation; (3) has at least five thousand acres of land or is of sufficient size as to make practicable its preservation and use in an unimpaired condition; and (4) may also contain ecological, geological, or other features of scientific, educational, scenic, or historical value.

The Wilderness Act prohibits certain uses in wilderness areas, stating that commercial enterprise, permanent or temporary roads not "necessary to meet minimum requirements for the administration of the area," motorized vehicles and equipment, and structures are incompatible with wilderness. However, ANILCA enacts certain wilderness management provisions for Alaska, in recognition of unique conditions there. Section 1315 permits the continuation of existing public use cabins and the construction of a limited number of new public use cabins or shelters if appropriate and under certain restrictions. Section 1110 permits the use of motorboats and airplanes for traditional activities in wilderness study areas, and federal regulations allow the continuation of established uses of aircraft and motorboats in all areas unless specifically prohibited by the superintendent. Wilderness designation would not prohibit or place restrictions other than those already imposed by law on subsistence use and sport hunting, fishing, and trapping.

This suitability review is not the same as a wilderness recommendation. The recommendation is a separate process through which the Department of the Interior will make a formal recommendation to the president regarding wilderness at Aniakchak. The president will advise Congress of that recommendation. Section 1317(b) of ANILCA sets a deadline of December 2, 1987 (two years after the deadline for the general management plan) for the recommendation to be submitted.

Wilderness suitability is based generally on conditions as they currently exist. Because of the delay between the general management plan and the wilderness recommendation, there is a possibility that proposed use and development, if implemented, could adversely affect areas to be included later in a recommendation. For this reason, the National Park Service is committed to avoiding such development and use in Aniakchak until Congress has had the opportunity to act on a formal wilderness recommendation.

Wilderness Suitability Criteria

Wilderness suitability criteria have been developed that reflect the definition of wilderness contained in the Wilderness Act and the provisions of ANILCA specific to wilderness areas in Alaska. These criteria were applied to all lands in the preserve and monument to determine their suitability for designation. These criteria relate to the physical character of the land and current land status. Other factors such as appropriateness for management as wilderness and state and local concerns with wilderness management will be considered during the formulation of the recommendation which follows completion of the general management plan. In determining suitability, a particular tract of land is judged against the following criteria:

Land Status

Federal land - suitable

Federal land under application and cemetery and historic sites - unsuitable if conveyed out of federal ownership; suitable if retained in federal ownership

Federal land interimly conveyed or tentatively approved for selection - unsuitable

Patented land - unsuitable

Nonfederal ownership of mineral estate - unsuitable

Mining Development

Minor past activities and disturbance - suitable

Major past and current activities - unsuitable

Roads and ATV Trails

Unimproved and unused or little used - suitable

Improved by mechanical means and regularly used by motorized vehicles - unsuitable

Airstrips

Unimproved or minimally improved and maintained by hand - suitable

Improved and maintained by mechanical means - unsuitable

Cabins

Uninhabited structures: hunter, hiker, and patrol cabins - suitable

Inhabited as a primary place of residence - unsuitable

Size of Units

Greater than 5,000 acres, adjacent to existing wilderness, or of manageable size - unsuitable

Less than 5,000 acres or of unmanageable size - unsuitable

Suitability Determination

Using the above criteria, all of the federal lands within Aniakchak have been determined suitable for wilderness designation based on their present undeveloped and unimpaired state. There are no past or current major mining developments, improved roads or ATV trails, improved or maintained airstrips, or inhabited cabins on the federal lands subject to this review. However, approximately 218,969 acres (including surface and subsurface) have been selected by and/or conveyed to regional and village native corporations and the state of Alaska. Whether or not these selections will be transferred out of federal ownership is uncertain at this time. For purposes of this suitability review, three preliminary wilderness study areas have been identified and analyzed (see Wilderness Suitability map). These include federal lands under selection (suitability pending), those lands that will definitely remain in federal ownership (suitable), and those lands selected and already conveyed to private or state ownership (not suitable). A determination of suitability does not affect any pending selections or other prior existing land disposal actions.

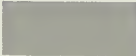







Area 1 (about 206,444 acres - 34%) - These are lands selected by the native corporations including selections of the subsurface oil and gas rights by Koniag Inc. They consist mainly of the coastal areas along portions of Amber, Aniakchak, and Kujulik bays. They are currently undeveloped and would, if ultimately retained in federal ownership, complement the adjoining preserve land to the west. Therefore, these lands or any portions thereof are suitable if retained in federal ownership and unsuitable if conveyed out of federal ownership. These lands are shown as "Suitability Pending" on the Wilderness Suitability map.

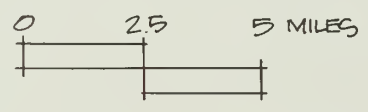
Area 2 (about 383,887 acres - 64%) - These lands encompass the remainder of the federal land within Aniakchak. They are undeveloped and therefore suitable for further consideration as wilderness. These lands are shown as "Suitable" on the Wilderness Suitability map.

Area 3 (about 12,507 acres - 2%) - These lands have been selected and conveyed to native corporations or to the state of Alaska. They are located in the extreme eastern and northeast portion of the preserve. Due to the nonfederal ownership, these areas are considered "Not Suitable" as indicated on the Wilderness Suitability map.

Changes in land status occurring or likely to occur between now and when future wilderness recommendations are made to the Congress will be reflected in those recommendations. All future wilderness recommendations would be made subject to valid existing rights.



-  SUITABILITY PENDING (AREA 1)
-  SUITABLE (AREA 2)
-  NOT SUITABLE (AREA 3)
-  AREA IN WILDLIFE REFUGE
FOUND SUITABLE IN FWS DRAFT
CONSERVATION PLAN
-  AREA IN WILDLIFE REFUGE
FOUND UNSUITABLE (IF OIL
AND GAS RIGHTS CONVEYED)
IN FWS DRAFT CONSERVATION PLAN
-  AREA IN WILDLIFE REFUGE
FOUND UNSUITABLE (IF PENDING
STATE OR NATIVE SELECTIONS
CONVEYED) IN FWS DRAFT
CONSERVATION PLAN
-  MONUMENT BOUNDARY
-  PRESERVE BOUNDARY



WILDERNESS SUITABILITY

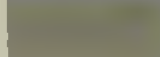
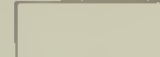
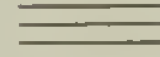





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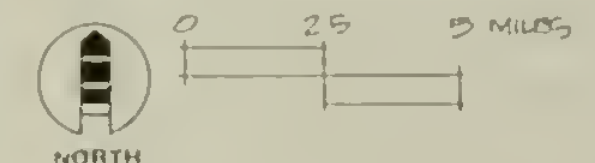
NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE

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NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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-  SUITABILITY PENDING (AREA 1)
-  SUITABLE (AREA 2)
-  NOT SUITABLE (AREA 3)
-  AREA IN WILDLIFE REFUGE
FOUND SUITABLE IN FWS DRAFT
CONSERVATION PLAN
-  AREA IN WILDLIFE REFUGE
FOUND UNSUITABLE (IF OIL
AND GAS RIGHTS CONVEYED)
IN FWS DRAFT CONSERVATION PLAN
-  AREA IN WILDLIFE REFUGE
FOUND UNSUITABLE (IF PENDING
STATE OR NATIVE SELECTIONS
CONVEYED) IN FWS DRAFT
CONSERVATION PLAN
-  MONUMENT BOUNDARY
-  PRESERVE BOUNDARY



WILDERNESS SUITABILITY

ANIAKCHAK

NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE
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PART TWO

Environmental Assessment

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

NATURAL RESOURCES

Geology

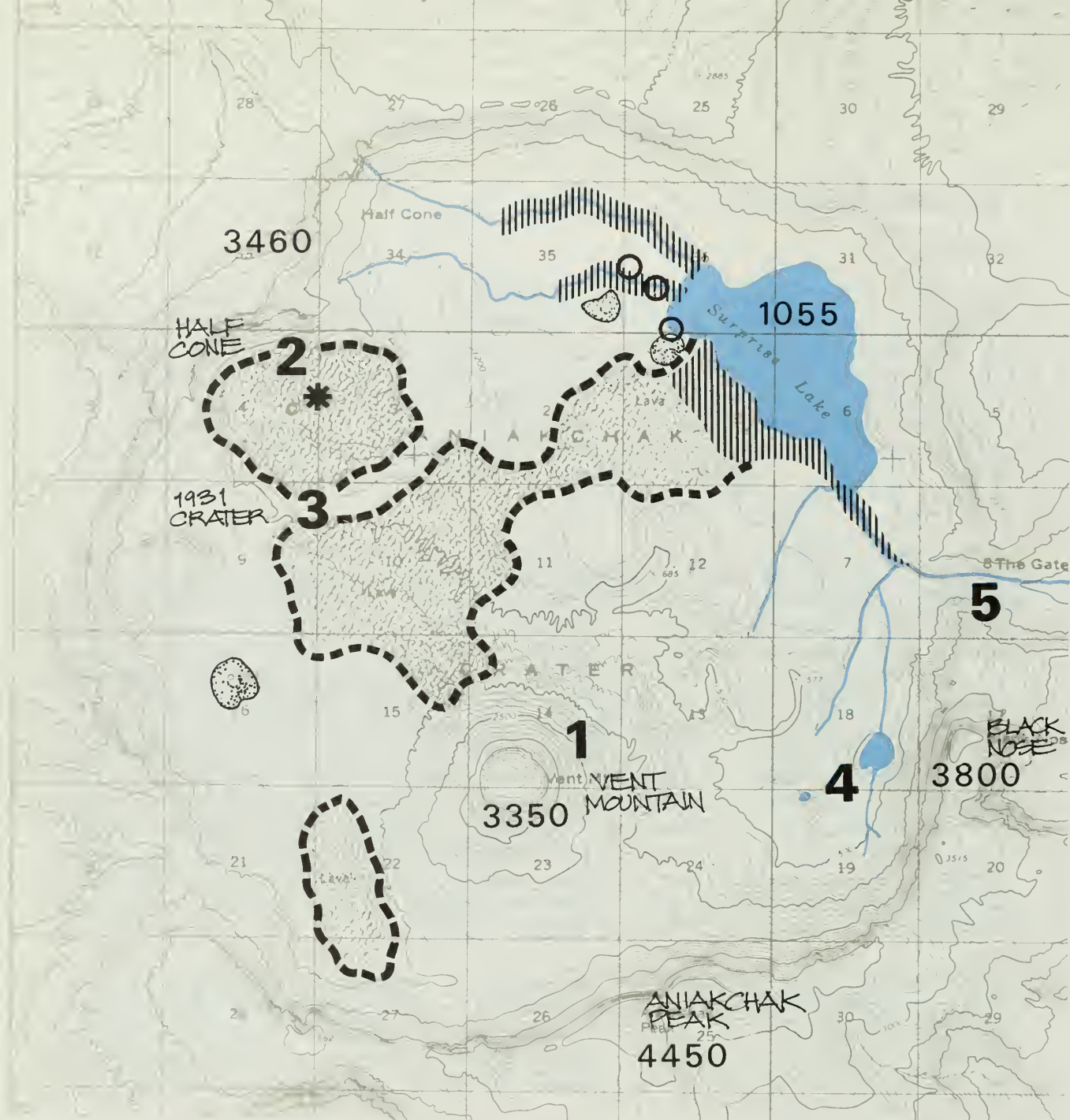
General. The rugged Alaska Peninsula is today and has been for thousands of years an area of considerable volcanic and tectonic activity. It is a part of the great "rim of fire" which surrounds the Pacific Basin and is caused by drifting of the giant Pacific crustal plate up against the surrounding continental plates. The deep Aleutian trench off the Pacific coast of the Alaska Peninsula represents a zone of great stresses and strains where the Pacific Ocean plate is being forced below the continental plate. Other regional structural features include a series of northeast-trending folds and faults.





The oldest exposed bedrock in the monument/preserve consists of a sequence of Jurassic and Cretaceous sedimentary formations of sandstone, shale, conglomerate, and limestone obviously deposited during a long period of tectonic stability. Tertiary time was marked by widespread uplift and volcanic activity throughout the region. The Aleutian Range was formed early in this period by a massive outpouring of volcanic material. Uplift, erosion, intrusion, and volcanism continued through the Tertiary, resulting in the deposition of thick sections of volcanic rock. Tertiary sedimentary and volcanic rock and much older sedimentary formations are evident throughout the Aleutian Mountains east of the Aniakchak caldera. A few scattered intrusives are exposed in the monument/preserve. Continued volcanic activity into recent times resulted in the volcanic rock, ash, and debris flows that form Aniakchak caldera, cover the caldera flanks, and are found in isolated outcrops. Surficial alluvial and glacial deposits mantle the Bristol Bay lowlands including the Meshik and Cinder River drainages.

Volcanic Features. Aniakchak caldera is a spectacular geologic feature and the most outstanding single resource in the monument/preserve (see Geologic Features - Aniakchak Caldera map). Aniakchak is unique among volcanic areas in the national park system in that it is larger than most, it is the site of extensive recent activity, and it is essentially a dry-bottomed caldera.

The caldera is the result of the collapse of a large andesitic structure and has a total internal relief of approximately 3,000 feet and a diameter of about 6 miles. The precaldern cone from which it was formed was approximately 7,000 feet high.

The basic caldera was probably formed more or less in a single massive eruption about 3,500 years ago. On a worldwide scale, the eruption ranks as one of the largest in such recent times, but there are nearly a dozen other calderas up and down the Alaska Peninsula that have a roughly similar geologic history. Since the initial formation of the caldera, a number of less spectacular volcanic events have occurred that have resulted in the varied modern features of the caldera floor: a large spatter cone called Vent Mountain dominates the southeastern half of the

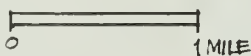


- 1 LARGEST, OLDEST VOLCANIC SPATTER CONE
- 2 YOUNGER, INCOMPLETE SPATTER CONE
- 3 MOST RECENT ERUPTION (1931)
-  MINOR SPATTER CONE
-  RECENT LAVA FLOW
- * WARM GROUND TEMPERATURE
- 4 WATER-FILLED EXPLOSION PITS
- 5 ERODED RIVER CANYON
-  PIONEER VEGETATION ON ASH
-  WARM MINERAL SPRINGS

GEOLOGIC FEATURES ANIAKCHAK CALDERA

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area, several ash and lava flows of different ages cover the floor, collapsed small explosion pits pockmark its surface, and a substantial explosion appears to have blown out part of the northwest rim at Half Cone. The most recent explosion pit was apparently created in a 1931 ash eruption that blanketed not only the interior of the caldera with 1 to 2 feet of ash, but also deposited substantial ash layers as far as 40 miles away in the Chignik villages.

The caldera rim averages about 3,000 feet in elevation compared to its floor at 1,100 feet but rises in places to nearly 4,500 feet. It appears that initially the rim was complete and that probably the caldera filled to a substantial depth with water, creating a deep lake similar to Crater Lake in Oregon. Some of the postcaldera events appear to have taken place during that lake-filled period since some flows seem to have been erupted underwater. Eventually a lower, weaker portion of the rim was breached by rising lake waters, and in what appears to be very rapid erosion, the resulting outflow has cut through perhaps 1,500 feet of both fossil-bearing sedimentary and volcanic layers to create the modern-day "Gates" through which the Aniakchak River now exits the caldera.

Outside the caldera the Aniakchak area shows evidence of ash flowing over formidable topographic barriers (Miller and Smith 1977). Ash flow tuffs, probably emplaced during the period of caldera-forming eruptions, are found in thick continuous exposure near the caldera and in isolated outcrops at considerable distances from their source. Ash flows moved down the sides of the precaldern cone, filling glacial valleys next to the volcano to a thickness of 220 feet or more. To the north and west there were no obstructions, and the ash flows swept across the Bristol Bay lowlands to the sea. To the south of the caldera ash flows were channeled down glaciated valleys, crossed the Meshik River lowlands, and continued on through mountain passes of the Aleutian Range into the Pacific Ocean. Just west of the Aleutian Range flows passed and filled intervening valleys to probable depths of 300 feet. Ash flow tuff outcrops indicate that originally the flows covered an area of at least 900 square miles.

Mineral, Oil, and Gas Resources

The monument/preserve and immediately surrounding area have no recorded mineral production, and there are no recorded mineral claims within the monument or the preserve. The nearest valid and active mineral claims are approximately 15 to 18 miles southwest of the preserve. Five inactive claims are located east of these active claims in an area north of Chignik Bay about 12 miles south of the preserve.

The evaluation of metallic mineral resources in Aniakchak that follows is based on information provided by the U.S. Geological Survey (1981 and 1984). Rocks of Tertiary and Quaternary volcanic-intrusive environment are widely distributed in the area and may contain porphyry copper and molybdenum deposits. No such deposits have been discovered in either the monument or the preserve, although there is the potential for their existence. Areas containing anomalous copper and molybdenum, which have been identified as having considerable mineral potential, occur within

and near the boundaries of the preserve in three locations (see Mineral, Oil, and Gas Potential map). These areas also contain values of silver, lead, zinc, tungsten, bismuth, and arsenic. Another area with considerable mineral potential is the mountains between Pumice and Old creeks, where several small Tertiary intrusives are known to be mineralized. Streams that drain the mountainous areas between these creeks contain sites that show high values of lead, zinc, copper, and silver. As a general conclusion, however, there are no known major mineral resource areas within the monument or the preserve.

Thin seams of coal-bearing rocks are known within the preserve but are not believed to be of minable quality (Geological Survey 1984). Coal deposits have been identified south of the monument/preserve in a belt 3 miles wide and 25 miles long on the west shore of Chignik Bay, where coal was mined for local use from 1899 to 1915.

The Alaska Peninsula lies within two petroleum provinces (see Oil and Gas Potential - Bristol Bay Region map). The north side of the peninsula is in the Bristol Bay province and the south side is in the Alaska Peninsula province. Virtually all of the monument/preserve lies in the latter province. Because of insufficient data and an earlier conflicting analysis, it is difficult to evaluate the potential for finding oil and gas resources on the Alaska Peninsula. Based on information to date, the petroleum potential is considered low to moderate for onshore and out to the 3-mile limit offshore in the Bristol Bay province, and low to unknown for onshore and out to the 3-mile limit offshore in the Alaska Peninsula province (Alaska Department of Natural Resources 1983). This conclusion is in agreement with the original "Bristol Bay Cooperative Management Plan" (State of Alaska and USDI 1983) text description of oil and gas potential, but the BBCMP map of such potential is apparently derived from earlier studies that suggest a low to moderate potential on the Pacific side of the peninsula.

The U.S. Geological Survey has identified only one area within the boundaries of Aniakchak that they believe has some oil and gas potential. This area includes a portion of the Meshik River drainage and extends into the southwest section of the preserve, all of which is on federal land (see Mineral, Oil, and Gas Potential map). The extent of potential oil and gas resources offshore has not been determined, but most interest has been focused on the Bristol Bay province.

Topography and Soils

The Pacific coastline of the preserve is rugged, with numerous cliffs and offshore rocks and islands. Peninsulas jut into the ocean, creating large bays and protected coves. Rising abruptly from the Pacific shoreline and more gradually from the Bristol Bay side, the Aleutian Range passes generally east of the centerline of the Alaska Peninsula. Peaks in this range seldom exceed 3,000 feet. To the northwest of these mountains and almost isolated from them lies Aniakchak caldera, the rim of which ranges from 2,000 to 4,000 feet in height. The northern and western flanks of the caldera grade gently down to the Bristol Bay lowlands. Several small streams wash and erode the far steeper southern flank of the caldera,



- MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- - - PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP
- AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING (UNIMPROVED)
- VILLAGE BUILDINGS
- CABINS

- COPPER, MOLYBDENUM
- LEAD, ZINC, COPPER, SILVER
- OIL AND GAS

SOURCE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY 1981b AND 1984

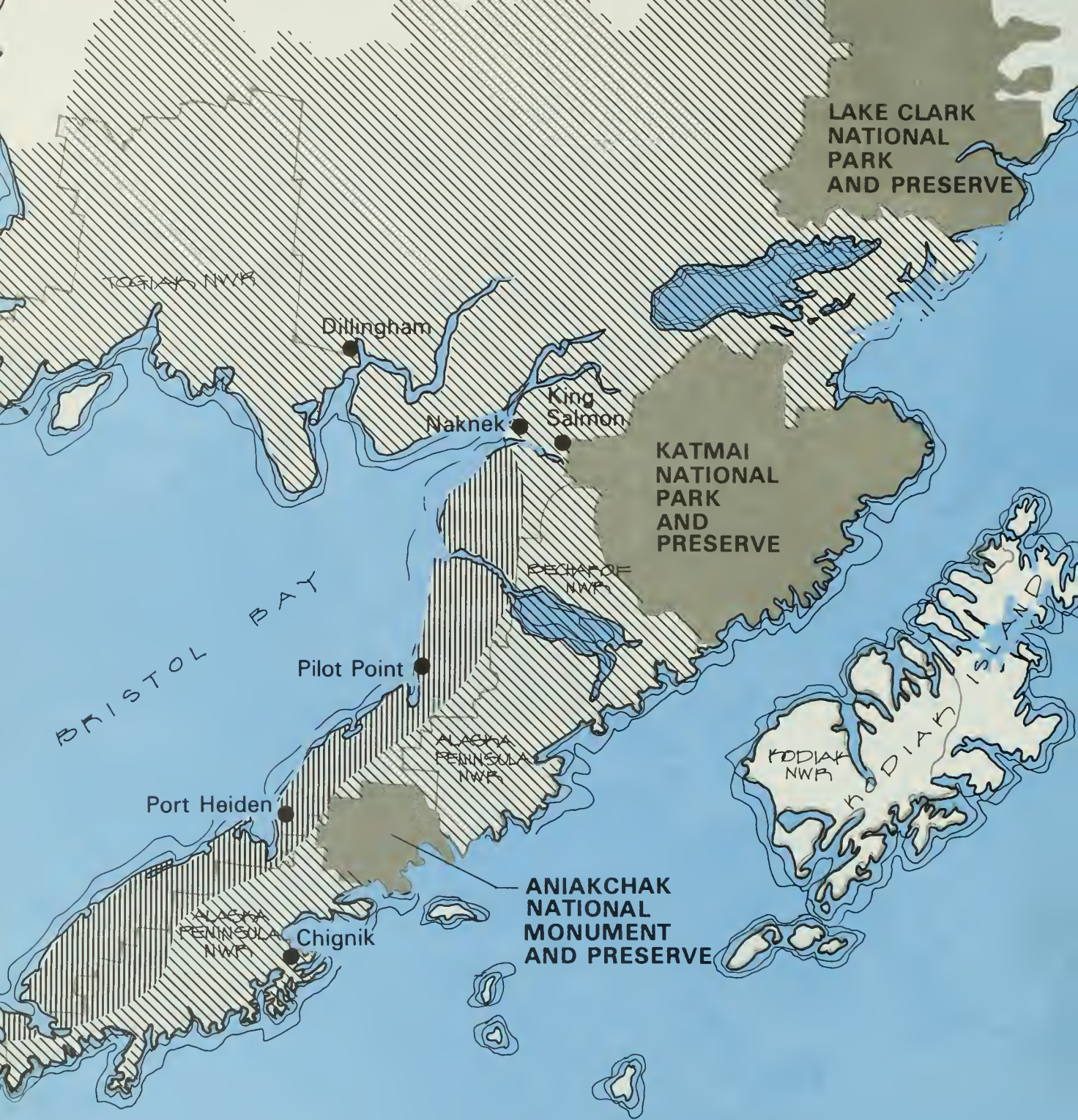


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MINERAL, OIL AND GAS POTENTIAL

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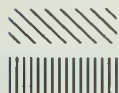
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NORTH

50 100 MILES

50 100 150 KILOMETERS



MODERATE OIL AND GAS POTENTIAL

LOW OR UNKNOWN OIL AND GAS POTENTIAL

OIL AND GAS POTENTIAL BRISTOL BAY REGION

ANIAKCHAK

NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

181 20039A

DEC MAR 85

SOURCE: ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES 1983

creating extraordinarily rugged terrain characterized by deep ravines, steep escarpments, and waterfalls.

In contrast to the mountainous upland terrain are the Meshik and Aniakchak River valleys that interrupt the Aleutian Range. The Aniakchak drainage is a narrow, rocky corridor near its origin at the caldera, but gradually widens out and changes into a flat tundra/shrub-covered valley. The valley of the Meshik River, a more mature stream, is quite broad, flat, and marshy. The other major river drainage in the monument/preserve, the northward-draining Cinder River, originates on the caldera's northeastern flanks and in the mountains to the east and descends immediately into the Bristol Bay lowlands (see Topography and Soils map).

The majority of soils within the monument/preserve have been formed in well-drained, gravelly layered volcanic ash. The deepest, most developed soils occupy the footslopes of Aniakchak caldera, as well as below drainages in steep mountainous areas and in the nearby coastal plains. The shallowest soils occur on recently deposited volcanic ash and cinder flows primarily on the western and northern slopes of the caldera. This loose ash is easily disturbed by wind because there is little or no vegetative covering. Deep, very poorly drained organic soils occur along the wide, flat Meshik River valley. These soils consist of fibrous peat derived mostly from sedges and moss interspersed with several layers of volcanic ash. Little or no soil can be found on mountain peaks and ridges, rock escarpments, and talus slopes, which includes much of the higher elevation of the caldera and other mountainous terrain of the Aleutian Range. There are no prime or unique farmlands in the monument/preserve (Soil Conservation Service 1983).

Climate

The two sides of Aniakchak lie within two different climatic zones, a maritime one and a transitional one. The Aleutian Range has a major influence on local climate, acting as a barrier to the prevailing moist winds off the Pacific Ocean from the south. As a result, weather along the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula is maritime, i.e., characterized by heavy precipitation, moderate temperatures, and strong winds. Annual precipitation in the coastal community of Chignik averages 127 inches, including the moisture derived from 59 inches of snowfall. Annual snowfall at higher elevations averages more than 100 inches. Temperatures are relatively mild. The average summer temperatures in Chignik range from 39°F to 60°F, and the average winter temperatures range from 21°F to 36°F. High winds are common along the coast and in mountain passes and valleys.

The climate along the Bristol Bay side of the Alaska Peninsula is transitional between maritime and continental; the weather typically exhibits a wider temperature range, less precipitation, and clearer skies.

Annual precipitation at Port Heiden averages 13 inches, including moisture from 29 inches of snowfall. Average summer temperatures range from 40°F to 59°F, and average winter temperatures range from 13°F to 31°F.

Summers are characterized by fog, drizzle, and protracted cloud cover on both coasts. Weather records for Port Heiden show a 45 to 60 percent frequency of fog and a 70 to 80 percent frequency of rain or drizzle during the summer. Cloud ceilings obscure the caldera rim for most of the summer, and even on days when it is possible to see the caldera from the air, turbulence and strong downdrafts can occur. Because of its topography and location, the caldera creates its own microclimate. As strong downdrafts form over the caldera rim, a phenomenon known as "cloud niagaras" frequently occurs, with clouds rapidly flowing over the rim and down onto the caldera floor. The interior of the caldera is subject to violent windstorms, even when the weather is relatively calm outside. Particularly strong winds may channel through the narrow "Gates," making entry by aircraft extremely hazardous.

Hydrology





Surprise Lake is nestled in the Aniakchak caldera on the north side. It is fed by several iron-soda springs issuing from northwest of the lake and by snowmelt from surrounding highlands. The lake is the major identifiable source of the Aniakchak River.

The Aniakchak River is the only major watercourse within the monument/preserve that drains eastward into the Pacific Ocean. Originating in Surprise Lake, it flows through the 2,000-foot Gates and runs approximately 31 miles to its mouth on Aniakchak Bay. The river is shallow, rocky, and has low falls as it drops 70 feet per mile for the first 13 miles. The remaining 18 miles of the river meander slowly through flatlands to Aniakchak Bay. Surprise Lake and the Aniakchak River form the primary passageway through which animal life finds its way from outside into the caldera.

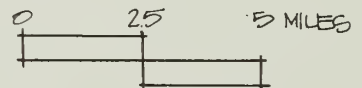
Originating on the south slopes of the caldera is the Meshik River, which turns westward to flow into Bristol Bay. The river is fed by a number of short tributaries that drain the southern flanks of the caldera and northwest slopes of the Aleutian Range as well as Meshik Lake, a shallow, circular lake approximately 1 mile in diameter. The other major watercourse in the monument/preserve is the Cinder River, which originates in the mountains northeast of the caldera. The river enters the Bristol Bay lowlands at the footslopes of Aniakchak caldera outside the monument/preserve boundaries. Numerous short, fast-running streams originate on the southeast slopes of the Aleutian Range and drop rapidly toward the Pacific Ocean.

The 100- and 500-year floodplains have never been mapped for any of these rivers. Until more hydrological data become available, suspected floodplains must be assumed, taking into consideration identifiable high water marks, areas of obvious erosion potential, and narrow river sections where ice jamming could occur.



-  RECENTLY DEPOSITED ASH
-  POORLY FORMED SOILS
-  ORGANIC PEAT SOILS
-  VOLCANIC SOILS

SOURCE: SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE 1979







TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

ANIAKCHAK
NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE

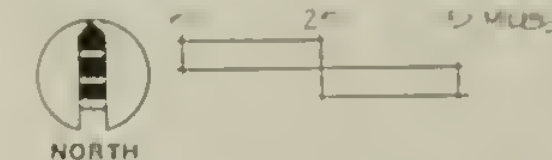
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-  RECENTLY DEPOSITED ASH
-  POORLY FORMED SOILS
-  ORGANIC PEAT SOILS
-  VOLCANIC SOILS

SOURCE: SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE 1970



TOPOGRAPHY AND SOILS

ANIAKCHAK
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Air and Water Quality

The air quality of the monument/preserve remains virtually unaffected by human activity. Aniakchak is currently a class II airshed under the Clean Air Act. This classification allows some degradation of air quality from its existing condition.

The water quality in streams and lakes of the monument/preserve is also essentially unaffected by human activities and is considered to be good. Springs feeding into Surprise Lake are known to have high iron-soda content. Comprehensive data on streamflow, chemical quality, or suspended sediment are not available for Aniakchak.

Vegetation

Over the past several years an extensive program to map the vegetation of the Bristol Bay region using satellite data was commissioned by the BBCMP (1983).

Information obtained from this land cover mapping project has provided assistance in evaluating the vegetative communities within Aniakchak, but the extremely broad range of the classifications adopted for the regional study makes it inappropriate to adopt either the classification or the map for the small specific area represented by Aniakchak. Continued field inventory efforts within the monument/preserve will eventually produce information to better interpret regionwide Landsat data.

Vegetation at Aniakchak can be divided into three major types--tundra, shrubland, and strand (beach). Tundra, which generally dominates over vast stretches of the monument/preserve, can in turn be subdivided into three separate plant communities--wet, moist, and alpine tundra. Shrublands and strand (beach) communities have a more limited distribution in Aniakchak.

Each of the five general plant communities encompasses a wide variety of individual plant species. Small differences in elevation, exposure, drainage, slope, or substrate may result in marked vegetational differences over small distances, commonly resulting in interspersed and overlapping of plant community types.

The wet tundra community occurs on poorly drained organic soils on level terrain or open depressions. Standing water is generally present. The dominant plants are typically water-tolerant wildflowers or sedges rooted in a mat of sphagnum moss. Slightly drier peat mounds support dwarf birch and heath shrubs such as crowberry and Labrador tea. Wet tundra primarily covers the broad flat lowlands of the Meshik and Cinder River drainages, with limited occurrence on Pacific Coast lowlands.

The moist tundra community occurs in areas of greater relief and better drainage than does wet tundra. It is found on level terraces, subalpine slopes, and coastal lowlands and is dominated by a plant mat of heath shrubs or grass-forb species. A kind of hummocky heath, generally 1 to 4 inches in relief, and most extensive on well-drained rocky soils is also found covering poorly drained peat mounds within the wet tundra habitat.

Terraces bordering the Aniakchak River commonly support this vegetation. Also found in moist tundra are bluejoint grass with various forbs; these are most extensive on well-drained subalpine slopes where they are often intermixed with tall shrub stands. Bluejoint/forb mixes also occur along coastal lowlands where drainage is moderate to poor.

The sparse, low vegetation of the alpine tundra community is found on exposed slopes and the summits of ridges and knolls near sea level, as well as at elevations above 1,000 feet in the Aleutian Range. Despite heavy rainfall, arid conditions may locally prevail due to strong drying winds and rapidly draining, poorly developed soils. Typical vegetation includes various dwarf forbs and heath shrubs such as aster, cinquefoil, mountain avens, bearberry, dwarf blueberry, and crowberry. Steep mountainous terrain and areas of recently deposited volcanic ash and cinder flows support some pioneering vegetation in protected areas and drainages, but are primarily barren.

Apparently devoid of vegetation after Aniakchak's eruption in 1931, the caldera and its flanks now display primary succession steps of revegetation on a barren volcanic landscape. Although much of the caldera floor remains unvegetated, plants have gained tentative inroads in favorable microenvironments. Pioneer plants such as mosses and lichens continue to spread and create more hospitable conditions for successive invasion by other floral associations. Plant cover is concentrated near moist areas around Surprise Lake, along the Aniakchak River, and on nearby low hills. Vegetation includes such species as lyme grass, sedges, and horsetail near the lake. Adjacent terrain is covered by mosses, lichens, lupine, dwarf fireweed, Kamchatka rhododendron, aster, mountain bluebell, and some dwarf willow. In these extreme environmental conditions, areas undergoing only ecological succession are quite fragile and sensitive to disturbance. Soil recovery and vegetation regeneration of affected areas is marginal and extremely slow.

The shrublands community covers moderately well-drained lowlands, slopes, and hilltops up to about 1,000 feet in elevation. Open stands of low willow are usually found lining streambanks and covering lowlands and gentle lower slopes. On rounded summits and progressively higher slopes, tall alder-willow becomes common and typically appears in a belt around mountainous areas, just below the alpine tundra. This coverage is most commonly a mosaic of shrub and grass-forb types.

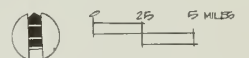
In the strand (beach) community, very well drained coastal sand dunes support a vegetative cover of beach rye grass and forbs. A broad strip of this vegetation type stretches along the beach west of Kujulik Bay lagoon and occurs along other bay coastal strips as well.

Wildlife

Wildlife is varied and abundant in the Aniakchak area (see Wildlife Distribution map). Most human use of the area both past and present involves either sport or subsistence harvest of the area's wildlife resources. The monument/preserve includes habitat essential to the maintenance of a number of wildlife populations. These essential wildlife



SOURCE. ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME 1983



WILDLIFE DISTRIBUTION

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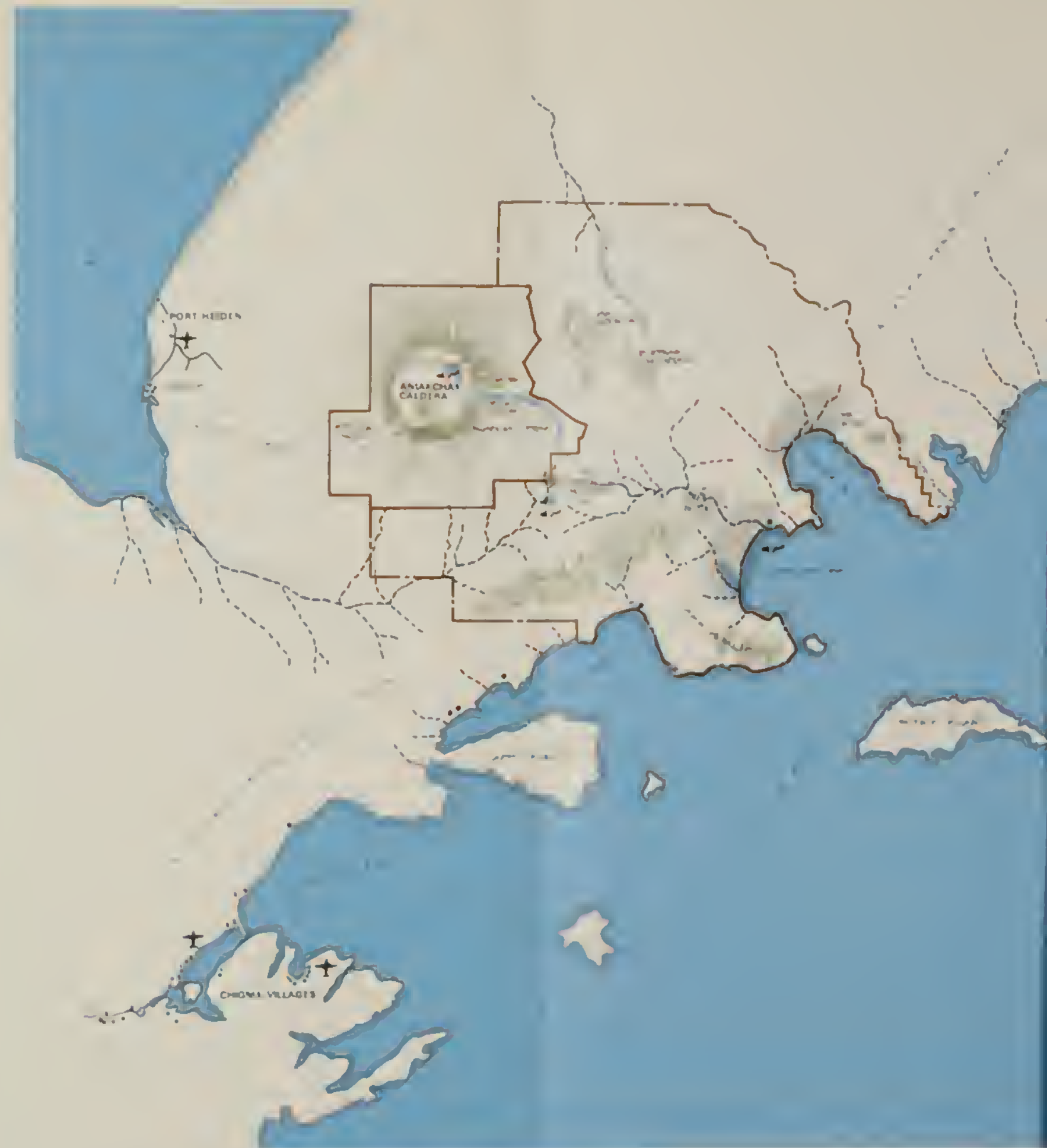
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- MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- - - PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- ✈ COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP
- ✈ AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING (UNIMPROVED)
- VILLAGE BUILDINGS
- CABINS

MOOSE AND CARIBOU

- WINTER RANGE
- CALVING AREA
- ↔ MIGRATION ROUTE



- MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- - - PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- ✈ COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP
- ✈ AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING (UNIMPROVED)
- VILLAGE BUILDINGS
- CABINS

BROWN BEAR

- SPRING USE AREAS
- SUMMER STREAM CONCENTRATIONS

habitats have been designated as "critical" by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in recognition of their particular significance as wildlife areas. Use of the state's term "critical habitat" should not be confused with that same term used elsewhere in conjunction with the federal Endangered Species Act.

Terrestrial Mammals. Within this century, moose have extended their range onto the Alaska Peninsula. Populations apparently peaked during the mid-1960s and have declined by one-third to one-half since that time. Brown bear predation as well as habitat changes are thought to be the most important causes of moose population declines on the peninsula. Although during the period of peak abundance when overuse of the available browse contributed to the decline in moose numbers, recent observations indicate that range quality is not currently a limiting factor. Consistently poor calf recruitment, primarily due to brown bear predation, seems to be the major factor limiting population expansion. Moose primarily range over the lower willow- and alder-lined slopes and valleys, with concentrations along the upper Meshik and Cinder River valleys and at the head of Amber Bay.

The Alaska Peninsula supports one of Alaska's major caribou herds. The peninsula herd is composed of three subherds. The largest, the Central Peninsula subherd, located between Naknek River and Port Moller, uses the monument/preserve and numbers about 17,000 animals. This herd ranges widely across most of the lowlands and follows general migratory routes in spring and fall. Calving normally occurs on the Bristol Bay lowlands, but within Aniakchak, calving is known to also occur south of Meshik Lake to the Aniakchak River drainage.

Brown bear move seasonally through many habitat types in the region. Within Aniakchak, spring bear concentrations occur along coastal grass flats at the heads of Aniakchak and Amber bays where they feed on newly emerging sedges. In late summer and early fall, concentrations shift to salmon-spawning streams. In the comparatively mild climate of the peninsula, the long period of food availability, and the abundance and quality of food, particularly salmon, are responsible for the large size and abundance of brown bear in Aniakchak. Areas of denning are usually located in alder, willow, or grassy areas on hillsides and mountain slopes. Denning within Aniakchak is known to occur on the slopes of the caldera and areas on the east side of the Aleutian Range.

Small numbers of wolves range throughout the region. Wolverines, lynx, and marten are also widespread but scarce. More common furbearers in the region include beaver, river otter, mink, short-tailed and least weasel, and red and arctic fox.

Marine Mammals. Sea otters, harbor seals, and northern sea lions inhabit coastal waters along the Pacific side of the Alaska Peninsula and probably occur along Aniakchak's coast throughout the year. A high/medium density sea otter area has been identified within the waters off the southern coast of Cape Kumlik. Harbor seals haul out in small groups along portions of Cape Kumlik, Cape Kunmik, and small islands off Aniakchak. Northern fur seals are probably near the coast in small numbers during most months of the year, with peaks in abundance when they are migrating southward in winter and northward in spring.

Generally speaking, eight species of whales occur in Alaska waters, all of which are endangered. Those species most frequently observed in coastal waters just outside the monument/preserve boundary are the humpback, gray, and fin whales. Sei, blue and Pacific right whales only occasionally occur near Aniakchak; sperm whales would be uncommon in these waters. The bowhead has not been reported in the Gulf of Alaska (National Marine Fisheries Service 1983).

Fish. The fresh and salt waters of the region support a number of valuable fish species that provide the basis for major commercial fisheries. Five species of salmon (sockeye, chum, pink, coho, and king) are harvested for commercial and subsistence use. The largest sockeye salmon run in the world occurs along the Bristol Bay coast of the Alaska Peninsula and into its lakes and rivers, primarily in June, July, and August.

On the Bristol Bay side on the peninsula, the Meshik and Cinder River systems support runs of sockeye, chum, coho, and king salmon. Other smaller streams support runs of sockeye and chum. On the Pacific side, sockeye salmon runs largely occur in the Chignik River system south of the preserve, although a small sockeye run exists in the Aniakchak River and its tributaries. In addition to sockeye salmon, the Aniakchak River system and other shorter Pacific side streams in the preserve provide spawning grounds for pink and chum salmon. Sockeye salmon are the only salmon species known to spawn in Surprise Lake. Streams on the Pacific side of the peninsula generally appear unsuitable for supporting king salmon, with the Chignik River system being a notable exception. The freshwater systems to which salmon return are obviously essential to the maintenance of salmon populations and the health of the fishery on which most area residents depend. The majority of the streams in the monument/preserve have been designated by the state as salmon critical habitat (see map).

Freshwater streams in the Aniakchak region also support Dolly Varden, arctic char, steelhead, and other freshwater species. Marine fish and shellfish that inhabit coastal waters off Aniakchak include halibut, cod, herring, flounder, crab (dungeness, tanner, king), shrimp, and clams. Most of these species are seasonally harvested and are very important elements in the area's commercial and/or subsistence economy.

Birds. The Bristol Bay side of the Alaska Peninsula provides habitat for some locally breeding bird populations but more significantly for the vast numbers of waterfowl (ducks, geese, and swans) and shorebirds that breed north of Bristol Bay. Millions of waterfowl and shorebirds migrate through the area, including large populations of emperor geese, cackling Canada geese, and black brant. Spring and fall nesting, feeding, and staging areas of highest density are generally associated with productive estuaries, lagoons, river deltas, and tidal flats where extensive tidal flats provide plentiful food and protective vegetation types are present. Some of these areas have been designated by the state as critical to the maintenance of waterfowl populations, including the Cinder River delta and Port Heiden Bay north and west of Aniakchak. Many shorebirds use this same habitat, although principally during fall migration. The monument/preserve itself does not contain habitat designated critical to the maintenance of these populations.



- MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP
- AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING (UNIMPROVED)
- VILLAGE BUILDINGS
- CABINS
- FRESHWATER STREAMS AND LAKES

SOURCE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME 1983



SALMON CRITICAL HABITAT

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The rugged terrain and relatively deep inshore waters of the south side of the Alaska Peninsula are not as attractive to waterfowl and shorebird nesting and staging as the Bristol Bay side. In the fall the Pacific bays' rocky shores are probably important for black oystercatchers, rock sandpipers, surfbirds, and black turnstones. Bays along this side of the peninsula are also used extensively by Steller's, king, and common eiders as wintering areas. In addition to waterfowl and shorebirds the region supports millions of seabirds, primarily on the Bristol Bay side of the peninsula. There are no major seabird colonies along Aniakchak's Pacific coastline. Species observed along the coastline and sometimes inland include black-legged kittiwakes, pelagic and red-faced cormorants, glaucous-winged gulls, murre, pigeon guillemots, and horned puffins. Nearby offshore islands also provide protected nesting habitat for a relatively small number of breeding pairs.

Bald eagles can be commonly found nesting and feeding along rivers and the coastline of Aniakchak. They have also been observed within Aniakchak caldera and on the cliffs north of Meshik Lake. Other raptors of the region include rough-legged hawks, gyrfalcons, ospreys, short-eared owls, and peregrine falcons. Peregrine falcons are probably present in the Aniakchak area but are likely to be of the nonendangered Falco peregrinus peali subspecies.

Endangered and Threatened Species

It is unlikely that any animals listed under the federal Endangered Species Act as a candidate, threatened, or endangered species occur in the Aniakchak area. There has been no positive identification of the endangered subspecies of peregrine falcon (Falco peregrinus anatum) or the threatened subspecies F. p. tundrius within the monument/preserve. The endangered Aleutian Canada goose (Branta canadensis leucopareia) nests on Aleutian islands far to the west and possibly migrates through Aniakchak, but no data exist to substantiate this. None of the 29 plant taxa being considered for possible future listing pursuant to the Endangered Species Act have been recorded from the area (Fish and Wildlife Service 1984).

Scenic and Wilderness Resources

Although great natural beauty can be found throughout the monument and preserve, the scenic focus is the caldera, the Aniakchak River, and the rugged Pacific shoreline (see the "Introduction"). Spectacular in dimension and awesome in its record of volcanic power, Aniakchak caldera is far beyond the ordinary scenic experience of visitors from elsewhere in Alaska or the Lower 48. The Aniakchak River's origin within the caldera and its tumultuous first miles are dramatic visual counterpoints to the river's gentle flatland nature as it approaches the Pacific.

Though a technical determination of wilderness is not being made here, wilderness-like character is a reality in Aniakchak. No modern structure stands within its 600,000-acre expanse, no human trail or track can be seen within or even approaching its boundaries. Access to the interior is

only by aircraft or arduous overland backpacking, or to the Pacific Coast by boats that must travel 50 miles or more through often difficult waters. Weather is a frequent and even life-threatening challenge to the unwary or unprepared; the need for self-reliance and self-sufficiency in both normal and emergency situations is extremely high.

Current impacts on wilderness character do exist: perhaps 10 aircraft flights annually enter and land within the monument and preserve (mostly in summer and fall), and commercial flights destined to the Chigniks and other southerly points routinely overfly various sections throughout the year. Commercial fishing activity is quite intense along the Pacific shore in summer and fall, and in those months one or more vessels are probably within sight of shore at all times.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Archeology and Prehistory

Today, as apparently in the past, the Alaska Peninsula is a sparsely settled region. Geographic isolation and a harsh climate have limited formal scientific study; the scattered nature of early human occupation has meant few archeological sites are known and even fewer have been well analyzed. This is particularly true in the central portion of the peninsula near Aniakchak; most survey work has been done farther north in the Katmai region, on Kodiak Island, or at the southern tip of the peninsula and southward in the Aleutians.

Although it is well accepted that the native peoples of the Aleutian Islands and Alaska Peninsula ultimately originate from forebearers in Siberian Asia, it is still uncertain as to the time and circumstances of arrival of the earliest groups.

Generally up until European contact the Aleutian Islands and the extreme western tip of the Alaska Peninsula were occupied by Aleut people; the central and eastern Peninsula contained Eskimo groups. The earliest physical evidence for occupation is about 8,000 years ago* for the Aleutian Islands and 9,000 years ago for the peninsula, but despite the similarity in dates it is probable that the Aleutian Islands and peninsula groups were not similar at that time.

More recent sites in the Aleutians are archeologically very distinct from the contemporary Eskimo sites on the northern peninsula. The modern

*This 8,000-year figure is far more recent than the 15,000 to 13,000 years commonly believed to be the most recent period when Alaska was connected to Siberia via the Bering Land Bridge. This suggests that the peninsula and the Aleutians were originally populated by proto-Eskimos (Eskaleutians) moving southward from their logical point of entry nearer the Yukon Delta or Seward Peninsula. However, some European and Russian archeologists maintain that the Aleut ancestors might have come by sea directly to the Aleutians even after the land bridge no longer existed.

Aleut language is also now very distinct from the southern Yupik spoken by peninsular Eskimo peoples. Although the two languages are related, it is estimated that divergence from a common ancestral language took place some 3,000 to 4,000 years ago.

The Eskimo component on the peninsula is derived from two major archeological traditions: a southern group of people who occupied the Pacific coast of the peninsula as well as Kodiak Island and eastward into the Kenai Peninsula area; and a northern-originating assemblage that occupied the Bering Sea Coast from the Bering Straits to the Alaska Peninsula. For several thousand years these two cultures coexisted on the peninsula yet remained distinct, with the boundary between them being the rugged Aleutian Range, mountainous backbone of the Alaska Peninsula. It was not until about A.D. 1000 that this boundary was fully breached and a convergence of the northern and southern cultural spheres took place. Although not obvious from archeological evidence, it is likely that the Eskimo language of the resultant convergent culture was derived from the northern component.

Though the Aleut and southern Yupik (Eskimo) languages are very distinct, and the geographic boundary between the two at the time of European contact can be drawn fairly clearly, there does not appear to have been such a clear line between the two based on their material cultures.* In fact, it is the Aniakchak area--although no evidence has been discovered in the monument/preserve itself--which appears to be a zone of gradual transition from Aleut to Eskimo culture. An important site at Port Moller (southwest of Aniakchak) is apparently transitional in terms of physical artifacts, suggesting that trade and contact between Aleut and Eskimo peoples along the juncture between the two groups resulted at least in a sharing of skills in tool-making and lifestyles, although not necessarily in language. Certainly both groups had a primary orientation toward coastal resource use and a secondary, but critical, dependence on terrestrial wildlife and berries. This tradition continues today.

As another indication of the transitional character of the Aniakchak region between Eskimo and Aleut, there is archeological evidence that the Chignik area was peopled by Aleuts (i.e., people whose artifacts are clearly related to the Aleutian Island tradition) as late as A.D. 1000. Yet, by A.D. 1800 (European contact), the Chignik area was linguistically Eskimo, suggesting that up to the recent past the Eskimo culture was expanding southward down the peninsula.

*A confusion in terminology exists between native people who consider themselves Aleuts and Eskimos. The Russians, who occupied the Aleutians as well as the peninsula, failed to distinguish between Aleut speakers and southern Yupik (Eskimo) speakers and thus gave the generic (and foreign) name Aleut to both groups. Therefore, several generations of southern Yupik speaking people such as those in the Chigniks and Meshik have considered themselves Aleut even though their language and cultural heritage is quite distinct from the native peoples of the Aleutians.

Thus, the ancient history of the central Alaska Peninsula around Aniakchak involves the point of contact between at least two major groups. These groups, though archeologically quite distinct at the two ends of their territory (i.e., in the Aleutians for the Aleuts and the upper peninsula for the Eskimos) and linguistically distinct even into modern times, appear to have been transitional in material culture, reflecting similar lifestyles and relatively frequent contact. (Note: The principal references for this section were Dumond, n.d. and Dumond, Cotton, and Shields 1975.)

Eighteenth Century and Modern History

As elsewhere in Alaska, great changes began to occur on the peninsula soon after the Russians first began exploiting the Pacific Coast after Vitus Bering's initial voyage of discovery in 1741. The fur trade, focused at first on sea otter, was the driving force.

Until the 1780s, the Russian fur trade along the peninsula was based on independent traders and hunters sailing from Siberia's Kamchatka Peninsula. They roamed the Alaska Peninsula hunting, or forcing local natives to hunt. In 1783 the first permanent fur-trading company on the peninsula, a private operation called Shelikov-Golikov, was established on Kodiak Island. This corporation, later known as the Russian-American Company, exerted a tremendous influence over native life in villages throughout the Pacific coast of the peninsula far into the 19th century until Russia's sale of Alaska to the United States.

Despite movement of the colonial administrative center from Kodiak to Sitka in 1805, Kodiak's influence on the Pacific side of the mainland peninsula continued, both as the regional trading center and as the supporting center for the other major agent of change, the Russian Orthodox Church.

Specific details of Russian impact on Pacific coast villages in the Aniakchak area are not known for the early period. Permanent Russian settlement on the mainland peninsula was apparently resisted with some hostility, at least until a strong presence was established on Kodiak. Undoubtedly both missionaries and fur traders traveled throughout Aniakchak's Pacific Coast, bringing Christianity as well as gradual conversion from a truly subsistent lifestyle to one based on commercial hunting in exchange for trade goods. Though probably not directly influenced in the earliest years of Russian trading, the Chignik-Aniakchak coast villages show some definite signs of Russian ancestral heritage, suggesting permanent residence and integration of Russian traders at some point.

In the latter half of the 19th century, Russia experienced difficulty in maintaining its position in the eastern Pacific and eventually sold its Alaskan interests outright to the United States in 1867. The strong government-monopolized trading firm approach of the Russians was replaced by independent competitive U.S. merchants. The result was not

only an accelerated decline of the major furbearers,* but also a decline in social intermixing and integration between traders and natives. Competing economic attractions outside the peninsula (e.g., sealing in the Pribilof Islands, gold discovery in interior Alaska) began to provide stimulus for local residents to move away, or seasonally spend time away from their traditional villages; a cash economy began to replace what had become the traditional fur-based trading economy.

Following the decline of fur trading, the U.S. contribution to local socioeconomic change was in development of salmon and later crabbing fisheries and associated canneries. Though concentrated at first in southeastern Alaska (Sitka) or north in Bristol Bay, smaller operations began as early as 1890 in the Chigniks. Even though experiencing various up and down cycles, these cannery operations have persisted for the past 90 years, and are today the economic mainstay of Pacific coast villages. Because of a poor harbor situation, the Bristol Bay village of Meshik on Port Heiden has not become a cannery site, although many residents there have traditionally fished. Initially based on a fish-trapping technique involving nets on fixed poles at the mouths of spawning streams, the salmon fishery later shifted in Bristol Bay to the drift gill net (a floating net deployed from small boats). On the Pacific side in deeper waters the shift was to purse seines, which has led to present-day fleets of wide-ranging seining boats able to exploit fish populations far from shore.

Though canneries dominated the Chigniks economically, native village people did not participate very actively. Instead, much of the cannery labor was imported, and the resulting seasonal influx of Chinese, Mongolians, Hawaiians, Filipinos, and others has brought considerable cultural diversity to Chignik villages. Some newcomers stayed, married local native women and, as a result, descendants of many nationalities are living in the Chignik villages today.

During the 1900-1930 period, while the canneries were expanding with imported labor, native lifestyles centered more on the limited fur trapping that was still available in the bays and lower drainages around Aniakchak. For a number of local families, fox farming supplemented a subsistence lifestyle, with small islands off the Chigniks and Aniakchak being used as unfenced farms where a few transplanted foxes were allowed to multiply and then trapped out. Trapping in winter and fishing in summer, either privately for subsistence or as a paid crew member, became and has continued to be a successful seasonal mix for many native Pacific Coast villagers.

*Although there is some evidence that the Russian American Company tried to maintain the fur trade by limiting hunting to sustained yields, the end result was severe scarcity even before 1867. The unorganized, competitive nature of the American independent traders left little opportunity for moderation in hunting. General conservation practices only came into effect after the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service assumed control over sealing in 1910.

By the 1940s, the small animal fur industry had essentially collapsed in this area, and many families that had previously led a very mobile lifestyle with only a few extended periods of residence in the villages began a more permanent residential pattern. Schools became common in the villages, and since the schools operated in the winter, this was a strong stimulus to establish permanent residence. Government assistance programs and seasonal employment with the fishing industry provided the necessary cash to exist within the cash economy, but subsistence activity to supplement cash purchases continued, as it does today.

The rugged Aleutian Range continued to exert a de facto separation between the events of the Pacific Coast and the Bering Sea side. On the Bristol Bay side, there was far less influence on the fur-trading industry simply because the marine furbearers did not occur there in large numbers. Historically, few villages existed on the Bristol Bay side of the lower and central peninsula at the time of first European exploration. In fact, Meshik village on Port Heiden appears to have been the westernmost Eskimo settlement on this side of the peninsula, with a large uninhabited gap extending farther west until the easternmost Aleut settlements are encountered.

The village of Meshik seems to have been incorrectly located on maps by a number of early Russian and American explorers/observers. Early reports had Meshik located as far west as Port Moller, but in reality Meshik has existed at its current location on Port Heiden since at least prior to first European contact. A reverse confusion surrounds the village of Unangashak, which was earlier reported to be on Port Heiden, but in fact (before being decimated during a flu epidemic) was some 20 miles west at the east end of the lagoon behind the Seal Islands. The name Port Heiden was adopted when the village was incorporated, although there still remains a local distinction between the traditional Meshik village development and the newer developments associated with the Port Heiden airfield.

Port Heiden evolved in several phases. By the late 19th century it was an active participant in the Bristol Bay cod fishery. This activity attracted a number of Scandinavian immigrants, whose surnames still appear in modern families. But much of the modern population is derived from persons relocated to Port Heiden from other settlements (like Unangashak) that had suffered great losses in the influenza epidemics of the early 1900s.

Social influences on Port Heiden in historic times have derived mostly from other communities of the Bristol Bay region such as Naknek and farther north to Dillingham.

Though lacking its own cannery, salmon fishing has been an important element in Meshik's economic history, with the catch going to Egegik for canning or, in recent times, fresh frozen locally and sent out by air. As in the Chigniks, a pattern of trapping in winter (for land animals rather than marine species) and fishing in the summer became common for native people.

In the 1940s, an important airfield was established on Port Heiden a few miles east of Meshik village. This provided a service and refueling stop for aircraft supporting various military bases farther out on the Aleutians. Though considerable temporary development accompanied the airfield, most was abandoned following World War II. The 6,200-foot gravel strip has been maintained and is the best such field in the lower third of the peninsula.

(Note: The major reference for this section was Tuten 1977.)

Archeological and Historic Sites and Structures

The National Register of Historic Places does not list any historic sites within Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. However, a variety of sites have been identified for further study and evaluation for their national, regional, or local significance.

No prehistoric archeological sites are known within the monument/preserve, but such sites have been found in the Chignik drainage 40 to 60 miles to the southwest. The potential for future discoveries around Aniakchak at elevations below 1,000 feet is rated by the National Park Service as moderate to high. Obviously, many sites may have been buried by volcanic activity.

The Alaska Heritage Resource Survey does list three sites that are relatively recent--the Eskimo village of Kvivkak (year 1880) and an old Russian fur-trading station (year 1790), both on Sutwik Island; and the Eskimo village of Aniakchak, somewhere on the Aniakchak coast.

Two additional reported historic sites of potential significance are the ruins of an unsuccessful razor clam cannery operated about 1932-35 on Aniakchak Lagoon, and the fish trap and Alaska Packers Association bunkhouse site at the mouth of the Aniakchak River. The latter operation began in 1917 and apparently was used seasonally until the 1940s. A native family living on Kumlik Island ran a tender between the traps and the cannery at Chignik, remaining in the Aniakchak area to trap small furbearers during the winter months.

These and other known historic cabin sites are shown on the Cultural Resources map.

SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Regional Land Use, Economy, and Future Development

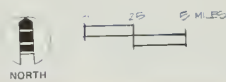
In a socioeconomic sense, the Alaska Peninsula is usually considered part of the Bristol Bay region. An extensive study of that region has resulted in two areawide plans: one dealing with state lands (State of Alaska 1984), and the other concerning federal lands (Fish and Wildlife Service, in press). Since Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve extends to the peninsula's Pacific shore, some reference must also be made to the influence of Kodiak Island.



ALASKA
PENINSULA NWA

- MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- ✈ COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP
- ✈ AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING (UNIMPROVED)
- VILLAGE BUILDINGS
- CABINS

- SITES LISTED BY ALASKA HISTORIC RESOURCE SURVEY (LOCATIONS APPROXIMATE)
- 1 KVIVKAK ESKIMO VILLAGE
 - 2 RUSSIAN TRADING STATION
 - 3 ANIAKCHAK ESKIMO VILLAGE
- OTHER HISTORIC OR CULTURAL SITES
- 1 ALASKA PACKERS BUNKHOUSE
 - 2 CLAM CANNERY
 - 3 POTENTIAL ARCHEOLOGICAL SITES BELOW 1,000 FEET ELEVATION
 - 4 WWII AIRFIELD



**CULTURAL
RESOURCES**

ANIAKCHAK
NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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These two recent Bristol Bay plans provide extensive regional data on land use, population, and future development and are excellent references to understanding the regional context for the monument/preserve. Since Kodiak Island (a separate borough) was excluded by the Bristol Bay Area Plan for State Lands, it does not treat economic and social ties between Kodiak and the Chignik villages. The region has also been arbitrarily defined to exclude both Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve and Katmai National Park and Preserve, but much of the data presented includes these two federally managed areas, which are important and integrated elements within the region.

Regional land status, use, and village location are shown on the Adjacent Land Status and External Influences map in the "Land Protection Plan."

Though widely distributed, the population of the Bristol Bay region is relatively small (in 1980, 38 communities totaling 7,815 persons); the population of Kodiak Island Borough was 9,939 in 1980, most of whom resided in the town of Kodiak. From 1970 to 1980 both areas have shown a tendency for population to shift from the smaller villages to the larger towns (Dillingham in Bristol Bay, Kodiak on Kodiak Island), which are becoming regional centers in the sense of transportation and economy. The dominant ethnic background is native (Aleut, Yupik Eskimo, and Indian), although there are many Caucasians in the regional centers and in certain smaller villages where they are involved in the commercial fishing industry.

The traditional economic base and subsistence lifestyle orientation of regional residents has been towards the resources of land and sea. Despite many changes and pressures in the historical past, this orientation persists, modified by external influences and channeled into sectors of the regional economy that seem suited to the tradition. The fishing industry is the region's largest employment source; it is highly seasonal and attracts many transient workers from elsewhere in Alaska and especially the Pacific Northwest states of Washington and Oregon. The permanent residents of the smaller villages have a very substantial reliance on subsistence activities to supplement their seasonal cash income, whereas in the regional centers a more diversified economy provides at least a part of the population with year-round cash employment.

In the Bristol Bay region, the commercial fishing industry (1979) provides about 47 percent of the employment base, government provides 33 percent, and support services provide 19 percent. More than one-third of the world's entire annual sockeye salmon harvest comes from Bristol Bay and the south shore of the peninsula, with a value sold from the vessel (i.e., before processing) in excess of \$100 million.

For individuals actually owning and operating fishing vessels, a large capital investment is involved: several hundred thousand dollars may be invested in a seining vessel and nets for a Chignik family, but much less for a Port Heiden fisherman and his smaller drift gill net vessel. Such high investment in a seasonal industry leads to extremely intense activity for short periods (summer for salmon, fall and winter for crab) and long winter periods of quieter equipment maintenance or alternative economic

activities. For individuals working as crew members or in processing plants, the intense summer activity is similar, and for many families the entire yearly cash income is earned in a short two-month period. Boat owners have the highest household income, which is needed to support the capital investment of their industry. Chignik Bay village, with its large proportion of boat owners, and an extended season that shifts from salmon to crab, has the highest household income (over \$45,000 in 1980). The lowest household income in the immediate area is in Port Heiden (about \$5,000). King Salmon, with its combination of boat owners and year-round employment in state and federal jobs has an average household income of over \$55,000.

Future development in the region, as foreseen by the Bristol Bay Area Plan, would concentrate on continued managed harvest of fish and wildlife resources both for commercial and subsistence purposes. Even if there should be major discovery and development of oil, gas, or hard-rock mineral resources, it is anticipated that the basic regional dependence on commercial fishing would continue. Whether village populations would continue to decline in favor of regional center growth is speculative.

The potential for finding commercially extractable quantities of oil and gas in some parts of the region (i.e., the Bristol Bay side) is rated moderate to high. Should discoveries be made, a considerable amount of associated development would likely occur, although this would take place gradually over a period of years. In addition to physical aspects of the drilling operations (which would differ significantly if the reserves were under tidal or submerged lands or on onshore lands), there would likely develop a support infrastructure for industry employees, including expanded housing and social services in some nearby villages. Transportation of the extracted product might well necessitate some sort of pipeline across the peninsula to a potential deep-water port on the Pacific side, the location of that pipeline and port being dependent on the actual location of the discovered reserves.

Though such discovery and extraction would undoubtedly bring economic change to some sectors of the regional population, it is unlikely that the majority of current small village inhabitants would benefit directly. Specific villages, however, might see substantial change if specific development happened to occur in or near them. The Bristol Bay study addresses the long-term dependence of the region's residents on healthy renewable natural resources. The preferred oil and gas development alternative in the Bristol Bay Area Plan would encourage leasing and development to avoid environmentally sensitive lands in accordance with guidelines that would minimize impacts on wildlife.

Some future expansion of existing settlements on the peninsula is foreseen in response to local requirements, with land needs to be met from state, municipal, or native corporation holdings. Development of new settlements on remote lands is a possibility, with lands provided by the state (Department of Natural Resources) or federal government (Bureau of Land Management). However, no new remote area settlement near Aniakchak is imminent, nor is any proposed in the preferred alternative of the Bristol Bay Area Plan. In a nonpreferred alternative, some 500 acres of state land on Cape Menshikoff, 15 miles west of the Ugashik village, would be made available for settlement.

One potential land exchange involving state lands in the northeastern corner of Aniakchak is a part of the Bristol Bay Area Plan's preferred alternative (see the "Land Protection Plan").

Transportation and Access

Similar to many remote Alaska areas that lack road connections, transportation and access among the villages around Aniakchak can be costly and difficult. Bulky supplies and fuel must arrive by barge, having been anticipated and ordered well in advance. The deep-water approaches to Chignik Bay and Lagoon allow fairly easy (monthly) barge service to these locations whereas lack of a port and shallow approaches limit larger boat access to Port Heiden. Travel by residents to outside the immediate area is by ferry, by boat incidental to fishing operations, or by aircraft. Reeve-Air Aleutian links Anchorage, King Salmon, and Port Heiden with large prop-jet aircraft, taking advantage of the 6,200-foot gravel runway. Small single-engine and twin-engine, nonscheduled, wheeled aircraft offer daily charter or "seat-fare" service between King Salmon, Pilot Point, Port Heiden, and the Chigniks. Seat-fare service from Kodiak to the Chigniks operates seasonally. Charters on floats or with Goose and Widgeon amphibious aircraft are available from King Salmon. Charter costs are high (but similar to other Alaskan areas): \$200 to \$400 per hour for a 5-passenger floatplane or 10-passenger Goose, respectively. Aniakchak caldera is about 1½ hours' flying time from King Salmon, less than one-half hour from Port Heiden. King Salmon's modern instrumented runway is served daily from Anchorage by jet.

Weather conditions frequently affect air transportation and access. At any time of the year, low cloud or fog can close these small runways, and adequate ground instrumentation is not available for low visibility landings.

Local Village Populations and Lifestyles

Six villages--Chignik Bay, Chignik Lake, Chignik Lagoon, Port Heiden (Meshik), Pilot Point, and Ugashik--lie within 15 to 40 miles of the monument/preserve. Residents of these villages have long used parts of Aniakchak for subsistence purposes. A summary of village population statistics is given in table 4.

The Chigniks. These three villages (together with Perryville and Ivanoff Bay more distant to the south) form an interacting subgroup distinct from the Bristol Bay communities across the Aleutian Range. The commercial focus among the Chigniks is on purse seining for salmon, and later crab fishing, and processing the product within the communities of Chignik Bay and Chignik Lagoon. Strong economic ties connect the Chigniks to Kodiak, despite the fact that all three villages are technically within the Bristol Bay Regional Corporation area.

Over 100 local boats participate in the salmon fishery in the Chigniks from May through September, with most of the catch being brought back

Table 4: Population Statistics of Villages Near Aniakchak

Village	Permanent Population			Avg. Annual Growth Rate (%) 1970-80	Population vs. Households 1980	Ethnicity % Native		Avg. Household Income 1980	Limited Entry Fish Net Permit 1980		
	1980	1970	1960			Earlier (year)	1980			1970	
Chignik Bay	178	83	99	253 (1950) 224 (1939) 193 (1890)	7.9	3.0	178/47	53.4	80.7	\$46,726	9+
Chignik Lake	138	117	107	Estab. 1950s	1.7	1.3	138/38	90.6	98.3	\$14,678	9+
Chignik Lagoon	48	NA	108	NA	NA	-4.1	48/14	85.4	NA	\$12,379	11+
Port Heiden	92	66	74	51 (1930) 30 (1920) 75 (1890) 40 (1880)	3.4	1.1	92/29	66.3	87.9	\$ 4,973	30*
Pilot Point	66	68	61		-0.3	0.4	66/16	86.4	85.3	\$11,283	34*
Ugashik	13	NA	36		NA	-5.2	13/8	NA	NA	NA	8*

*Drift or set gill net

+Purse seine

either to the Sea Alaska (formerly Alaska Packers Association) cannery at Chignik Bay, or to floating processors. Some salmon for freezing is delivered to Kodiak. Some 30 local boats also participate in the fishery for herring and herring roe in June and July. Crabbing (king, tanner, and dungeness) is also important, with much of this activity taking place in fall and winter after the salmon runs. This provides boat owner/operators and crew a longer period of cash-based employment than if it were only a local salmon run being exploited. Summer, however, is undoubtedly the most intensely active time, with some 600 to 700 outside laborers moving into Chignik Bay for cannery work and hundreds more seasonally employed at Columbia Ward. In the summer much of the population of Chignik Lake leave their permanent homes to move into the fish camp at the Columbia Ward cannery opposite the village of Chignik Lagoon. Recent closure (1983-84) of the formerly lucrative king crab fishery all along the Pacific and Bristol Bay coasts may have serious consequences on some fishing operations in the Chigniks.

Chignik Bay is in the process of being incorporated as a second-class city; the other two are currently unincorporated. Each is represented by traditional councils recognized by the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Unless or until the communities incorporate, title to townsite lands cannot be obtained. However, each respective native village corporation has already received interim conveyance (working title) to much of its share of selected lands near the village. Title to the subsurface estate on those lands, as provided by ANCSA, is held by the Bristol Bay Regional Corporation. None of these interimly conveyed lands lie within the monument or preserve.

Despite annual household incomes, many Chignik residents are still very involved in and dependent on subsistence hunting, fishing, trapping, and berry picking to supplement purchased foods. Marine and freshwater fish and crabs are taken throughout the year both locally and at some distance from the villages. Moose, caribou, ptarmigan, ducks, and geese are also taken in season. Berry picking (blueberry, cranberry, mossberry, and salmonberry) is important in the fall. A portion of this subsistence activity takes place along the coast and lower drainages of Aniakchak (described in more detail later in the section on public use patterns).

Bristol Bay Villages. These three bayside villages--Port Heiden, Pilot Point, and Ugashik (as well as a fourth, Egegik to the north)--form an interacting subdivision just as the Chigniks do on the Pacific side. The strongest economic ties between these villages and larger population centers are with Naknek and King Salmon. Social and family ties exist between Port Heiden and the Chigniks.

Commercial activity in these villages focuses on drift and set gill netting for salmon runs in the mouths of rivers near the villages (as contrasted with purse seining on the Pacific side). As elsewhere, entry into the fishery is limited to permit holders, and since only a fixed number of permits exist, there is a limit to expansion of the fishery. Permits may be bought and sold. Boat size (32 feet) is also under limitation. Most salmon caught in this fishery are delivered for canning principally to small-scale facilities in Ugashik and Egegik. Substantial amounts go out as fresh-frozen fish through operators in Pilot Point and Port Heiden.

These Bristol Bay communities have a greater seasonal dependence on short-lived salmon runs than the Pacific villages because there is less opportunity to progress to exploitable winter or fall fisheries. Recent years have been particularly productive, however, and the dollar value of the permits as well as profits have risen accordingly. Port Heiden has only a small natural harbor that is now silted in so as to be unusable except for shallow-draft vessels. No docks are publicly maintained at Pilot Point.

Port Heiden has been incorporated since 1972 and has an elected city council; the city provides utility services to residents. A major effort is underway to relocate many of the buildings and families from historic Meshik townsite to a less-confining site nearer the airport. The original site is crowded between a small lake and the eroding seacoast.

Both Pilot Point and Ugashik are unincorporated but have recognized traditional councils representing their inhabitants. Both have active native village corporations that have selected and received interim conveyance of title to nearly all lands to which they are entitled. None of these lands are within Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. Ugashik is too small to qualify for state revenue sharing funds, although Pilot Point does. The 3,500-foot runway at Pilot Point experiences much small plane use. A new strip at Ugashik has recently been completed.

The highly seasonal nature of the cash-producing salmon fishery on the Bristol Bay side leads to a strong dependence on subsistence activity by residents of these three villages. Besides salmon retained from commercial activities, Port Heiden villagers use caribou, moose, waterfowl, shellfish, and berries. Similar use is made by people from Pilot Point and Ugashik, who reportedly also use ptarmigan, bear, and a wider variety of berries. Some subsistence activity from these three villages does take place within Aniakchak's boundaries.

Public Use Patterns

Subsistence Use. As indicated earlier, residents of nearby villages continue to depend in varying degrees on subsistence activities, including hunting, fishing, trapping, berry picking, and collecting other plant products. The actual number of animals taken and the specific areas from which they are taken vary from year to year. To village residents, subsistence activity is an integral part of existence regardless of his or her ability to substitute cash-purchased food and clothing. Therefore, to village residents around Aniakchak, it is essential that lands traditionally used for subsistence, although not necessarily used every year, continue to be available for such use.

ANILCA, in its establishment of Aniakchak and elsewhere (section 201(1) and title VIII), makes clear that the opportunity for continued subsistence use is guaranteed in both the monument (where traditional) and preserve. The state of Alaska is given the responsibility to monitor and regulate subsistence harvest; in Aniakchak, subsistence hunting is currently undertaken under the same seasonal closures and bag limits as recreational hunting.

Recreational hunting is not allowed in the monument, but may be allowed under state regulations within the preserve subject to the broad provision that where there is conflict with subsistence use, the latter will be given priority. Sportfishing is permitted in both the monument and the preserve under state regulations.

To the extent specific information exists, areas used for subsistence by the villages nearest Aniakchak are shown on the Subsistence and Sport Harvest map and described below. The indicated ranges primarily reflect broad areas where caribou and moose hunting occurs; other uses (e.g., waterfowl harvesting) would have a much more limited distribution inside the same general areas.

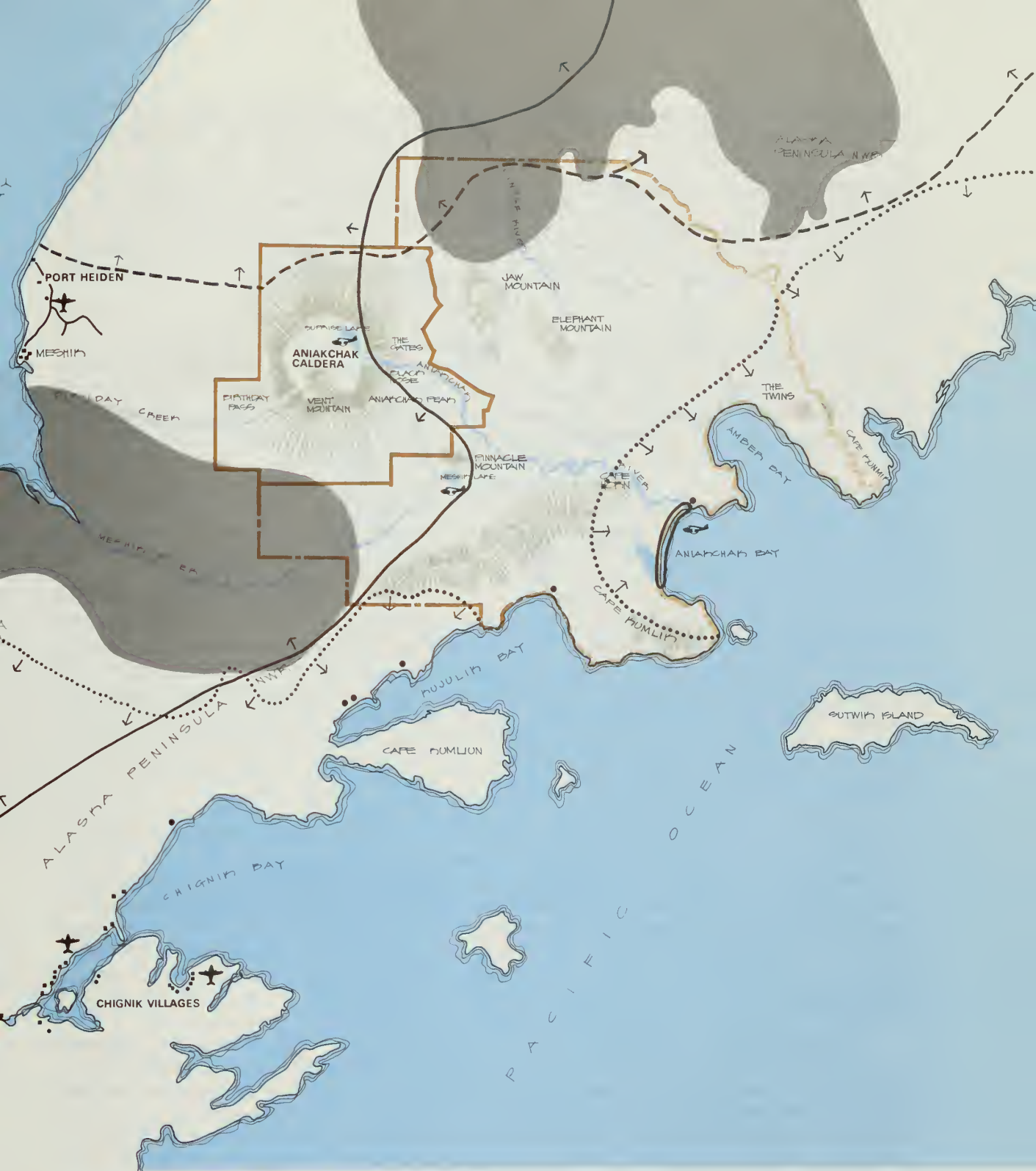
Subsistence users from the Chignik villages are active primarily on the southern slopes of the Aleutian Range down into the Pacific coastal lowlands and bays. There is some distinction between the three Chigniks: Chignik Lake residents apparently limit themselves to the taking of caribou in this general area; Chignik Bay and Chignik Lagoon users engage in a wider variety of activities in Aniakchak, including taking caribou and moose in the lowlands, gathering marine invertebrates along the coast of Aniakchak Bay, and harvesting waterfowl along the northern coast of Kujulik Bay. Some trapping is done along the coast of Aniakchak Bay, with Chignik Lagoon residents also trapping along Black Creek, the lower Aniakchak River, and the north coast of Kujulik Bay. Chignik Bay and Chignik Lagoon residents also harvest marine mammals throughout Aniakchak, Amber, and Kujulik bays.

Subsistence users from west of the monument in Port Heiden take caribou from the monument (including the caldera at times) and southwestern parts of the preserve west of the Aleutian Range. Moose are taken along the Meshik drainage, including the upper tributaries west of Meshik Lake in the preserve.

Subsistence users from Pilot Point and Ugashik take caribou along the northern boundaries of both the monument and preserve. Trapping occurs along the Pumice Creek drainage; waterfowl are taken in both the Cinder River and Pumice Creek drainages.

Commercial Fishing. Although commercial fishing on the Pacific Coast takes place in waters outside the boundaries of the preserve, it is a pattern of public use of considerable importance because of its proximity. In the summer fishing season, Chignik and Kodiak seining boats operate in Amber, Aniakchak, and Kujulik bays. These vessels spend many days either working or anchored in bays whose coastal resources are within the preserve. While not actually fishing, boat crews go ashore for subsistence or sport hunting or gathering invertebrates, or they take the small high-powered boats used to set the nets up the lower portions of the rivers in search of wildlife or for exploration. Due to the mobility of the seining boats, virtually every portion of the preserve coast is visited in this way each summer.

Continuous summer use of these bays by commercial fishermen also raises the issue of potential oil and sewage pollution from the vessels. There may also be problems associated with the disposal of dead fish rejected



SUBSISTENCE AND SPORT HARVEST

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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
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from the seines, which after floating ashore, may form a significant but unnatural source of food for brown bears scavenging along the beaches.

Recreational Use. Recreational use in the Aniakchak area includes sport hunting and fishing, as well as nonconsumptive leisure activities such as backpacking, rafting, camping, exploration, photography, and nature study. Guided expeditions for all varieties of recreational use, although commercially operated for profit, are considered an element of recreational use.

Sport Hunting and Fishing. Statistics on location and intensity of sport hunting and fishing in the preserve are not available. Local reports suggest that a small number of private unguided parties or individuals (perhaps four or five per year) will enter the preserve by small plane and land on ash fields at higher elevations on Aniakchak's slopes (hunting caribou), gravel bars in the Cinder River drainage (moose or caribou), or Pacific-side river drainages (moose, caribou, brown bear, and river fishing). The extent to which these private parties might be local village residents engaged in subsistence use versus nonresident sportsmen is not clear. However, fish and game regulations prohibit the aircraft transportation of subsistence-taken wildlife.

The Alaska State Guide License Control Board has assigned eight hunting guide areas that include parts of the monument or preserve. (Only those in the preserve actually have legal status because sport hunting is not allowed within the monument.) Assignment of an area does not, however, necessarily mean active use within the preserve. During 1983-84, only one of the eligible (i.e., assigned) hunting guides has applied for and received his annual \$50 commercial use license. In this instance, no activity was reported in 1983.

It is possible that the remaining eligible hunting/fishing guides are either inactive or not aware of the requirement to obtain a separate commercial use license now that the area is a monument/preserve. Some guided hunting/fishing in the preserve may therefore be going unreported. Apparently there are about five guides who operate at times from Port Heiden; several operators out of King Salmon are capable of offering trips into the Aniakchak area for hunting/fishing or other recreational activities.

Backpacking, Rafting, Etc. Statistics for nonconsumptive recreational use are also scarce, principally because such use may have gone unreported by guides or private parties. Private parties are not actually required to report activities within the monument/preserve, and most of the information on this use category comes indirectly from informal reports of the air-taxi operators who provide transportation.

In the five seasons since Aniakchak became a unit of the national park system (first as a monument in 1978), fewer than 25 nonconsumptive recreational visitors are known to have entered the area. Most of those have been transported by amphibious aircraft into Surprise Lake in Aniakchak caldera and picked up sometime later after hiking and exploring within the caldera. A few parties have landed on Meshik Lake for camping and local exploration. Only two groups are known to have

run the Aniakchak River since 1979 (a National Geographic Society team on assignment in 1982 and the NPS planning team in 1983), and one party has floated the Meshik (the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge staff). None of these rafting expeditions were strictly recreational since transportation and logistics costs were being subsidized by the commercial or federal agencies involved. However, neither the cost nor logistics and weather difficulties are expected to eliminate interest in future hiking or floating.

Although the caldera and the Aniakchak River and Meshik River corridors are currently the most attractive resources for nonconsumptive recreational visitors, and are expected to see increased use, there may be other areas of interest in the future. The entire Pacific Coast is extremely scenic and, with care, is probably accessible by seagoing kayak in challenging trips beginning with an airplane entry somewhere in Amber or Aniakchak bays and ending at the Chigniks.

Three persons currently hold commercial use licenses for river running in the monument and preserve, but none of these reported activity in the 1983 season.

Air-taxi service or a private aircraft is essential in gaining access to interior parts of the monument/preserve for recreational use. However, it is possible to gain access to the caldera overland from Port Heiden in a one or one and a half day backpack if the correct route is followed. Access to the Pacific Coast by boat is technically feasible from the Chigniks or Kodiak, but the distances are substantial, and no air-taxi service is currently available to the public.

One air-taxi operator (from King Salmon) is currently licensed to operate within Aniakchak, and it is this service that has provided the majority of access to recreational visitors over the last five years.

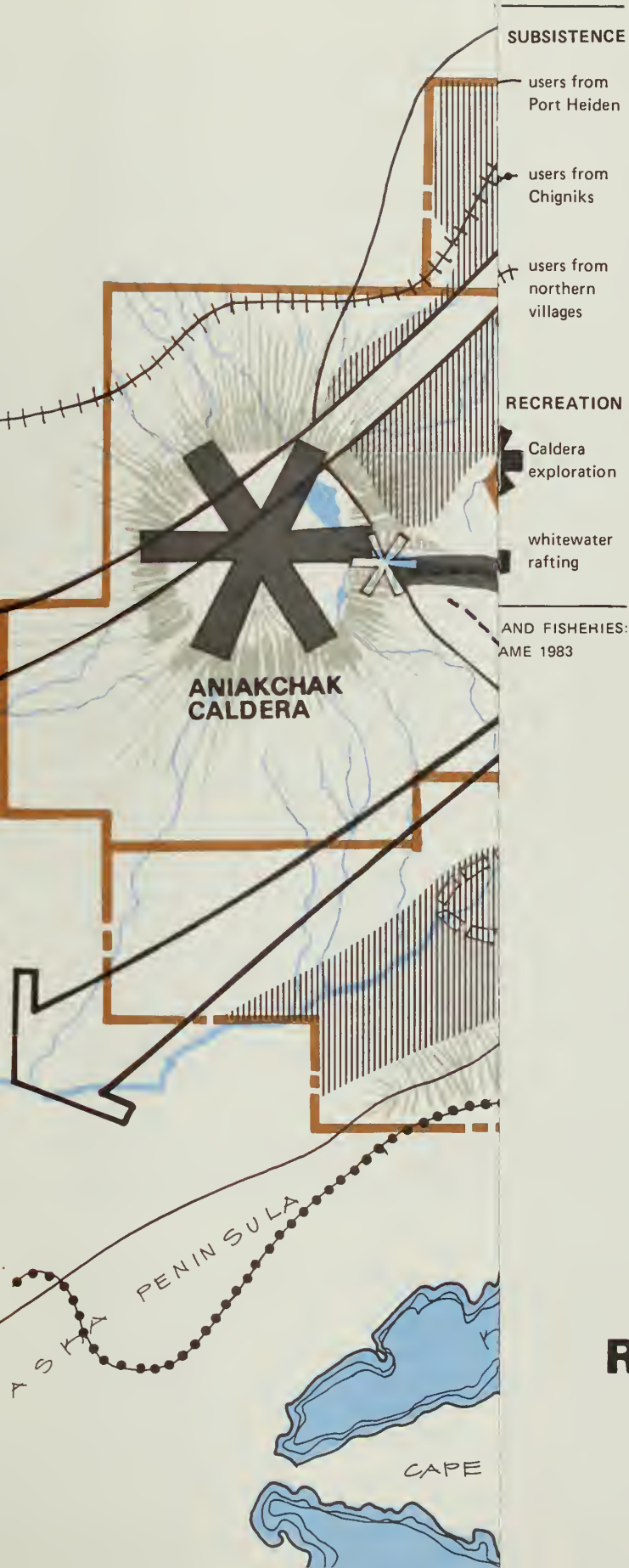
Trends and Projections in Recreational Use. There are simply no reliable statistics on which to base trends and projections in recreational use. The following discussion provides some theoretical considerations that may apply.

For sport hunting and fishing, the area's attractiveness may well increase if and when native corporation selected lands are conveyed and public hunting on native lands is restricted or is subject to payment of fees. If that occurs, an unknown proportion of the annual hunting and fishing parties currently guided out of Port Heiden or the Chigniks may shift to preserve or refuge lands. How many would actually choose the preserve is unknown, but only four or five more groups per year would double the estimated present use.

Rafting and backpacking use, now thought to be only one or two groups (less than 10 persons) per year, could very well increase with or without new facilities or assistance provided by NPS development plans. Remote, challenging wilderness tourism--particularly in small guided parties--has increased dramatically elsewhere in Alaska and worldwide in the past decades. "Discovery" of Aniakchak by tour operators or individuals seems inevitable.

Scientific Research and Resource Survey Use. A fourth distinct use category is that of the scientific research and survey group. Historically, there have been more scientific expeditions than recreational ones, focusing in particular on the remarkable volcanic features of the caldera and the ash flows that radiate from it. Emphasis has shifted more recently to groups surveying for potential oil, gas, and mineral resources. Though the latter survey work will undoubtedly continue until the potential is well-evaluated, increasing emphasis will be placed on habitat and vegetation study in support of more effective wildlife resource management.





RESOURCE VALUES

SCIENTIFIC AND SCENIC

designated wild river

geologic/scenic areas

WILDLIFE

Note: only areas critical in species life cycles are shown

brown bear: spring use (also summer along streams)

moose: winter use

caribou: spring calving

caribou: migration corridors

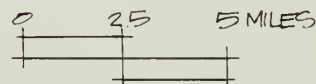
harbor seal: haulout area

Not shown bald eagle: nest along streams

No endangered species known.

FISHERIES

Not shown most major streams are salmon fresh-water habitat



EXISTING USES AND RESOURCE VALUES

ANIAKCHAK NATIONAL MONUMENT AND PRESERVE

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ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

INTRODUCTION: CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION

In preparing the proposals contained in the preceding plans, a variety of alternatives were formulated. To merit detailed consideration, an alternative had to meet the basic criteria that (1) it would satisfy at least the minimum requirements set forth in laws establishing Aniakchak and the responsibilities of the National Park Service, (2) it fell within the range of possible options Congress left open to be considered and determined through the management planning process, and (3) it was a viable, achievable, and feasible plan that the National Park Service had reasonable expectations of being able to implement, if selected.

There were some alternatives which, although attractive to some philosophical approaches, were briefly considered but rejected based on these three criteria. On the strict nondevelopment end of the spectrum was a "do absolutely nothing" approach, which would in effect have left the area without management and provided no new information on which to judge the present or future conditions of Aniakchak. Though least costly--initially--and appearing to preserve the status quo, the do-nothing approach meets none of the three criteria above and was rejected at an early stage.

On the opposite, development-oriented end of the spectrum were the proposals made in the National Park Service's early legislative proposal for Aniakchak National Monument (NPS 1974), which included multipassenger transport systems into the caldera, trails and campgrounds in the monument (and preserve), and concentrated visitor and administrative development (headquarters, accommodations, campground, and a visitor center) at Port Heiden. Although this type of alternative would meet minimum resource protection requirements, and--though some might disagree--would have been within the range of options acceptable to Congress, its likelihood of being achieved by the Park Service in the foreseeable future would be very low. Budgetary limitations, a growing conservatism toward physical development in remote parklands in Alaska, the unresolved question of wilderness designation, and a history of extremely low public demand at Aniakchak all are factors that would make implementation of such proposals highly unlikely even if selected. Therefore, this kind of development proposal was also rejected at an early stage.

Three alternatives were presented to the public for informal review and comment in a February 1984 "Issues and Alternatives" workbook. With slight modifications noted in the text, these alternatives are as follows.

ALTERNATIVE A: CONTINUE MINIMUM MANAGEMENT

Management activities would be limited to those legally required to protect resources and accommodate use. Existing laws, policies, and regulations would be used to respond to future changes and influences on a case-by-case basis, but considerable flexibility in interpretation would be reserved for future managers.

Specifically, minimum management activities would include compliance with existing federal regulations on endangered species, air and water quality, and protection of cultural resources. Actions to protect natural and cultural resource values would be taken when specific threats were detected, but research and monitoring in advance would be minimal. Subsistence and sport use of fish and wildlife would continue to be regulated by the state, who would, with minimal assistance by the National Park Service, provide judgments whether wildlife populations were at viable levels capable of sustainable use. Recreational use would be allowed to increase according to demand but without facilities or other encouragement or discouragement. Administration would continue as a shared duty of the Katmai staff in King Salmon with occasional visits to Aniakchak in response to problems or opportunities. Private interests, either as commercial services or development of private lands, would be monitored to detect impacts that were legally unacceptable. Response to a landowner's offer to sell, or to change his land use, would be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Regional or neighboring land use changes would also be dealt with as they occurred, with the National Park Service taking a passive role in future regional planning.

Development and use under alternative A is shown on the Alternative A map.

ALTERNATIVE B: CONTINUE EXISTING USE WHILE INCREASING RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AND PROTECTION

The National Park Service would assume an active role in directing public use and gaining a better understanding of resources. A long-range strategy would anticipate future influences and direct the actions of future managers. Emphasis would be placed on research and resource protection related to managing legally allowed consumptive use as well as managing the natural ecosystem. No action would be taken to anticipate significant increases in nonconsumptive recreational use or to avoid programs or actions that would encourage such increases. (Note: In its original presentation, this alternative suggested actively limiting increases in use. Upon further consideration, this was found to be unrealistic and thus was modified to the passive approach above.)

Resource management activities would include the minimum actions of alternative A but would be expanded to include cooperation with the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in research and protection. The goals would be (1) to develop an active program to determine the viability of fish and wildlife populations in Aniakchak and their ability to sustain consumptive use, and (2) to gain a better understanding of all biological and physical processes within the monument and preserve.

Consumptive uses would continue under state regulation, but those regulations would be formulated on the basis of cooperative research. Cultural resource surveys and protection of known sites would be actively pursued. Nonconsumptive recreational use would continue, but increases would not be encouraged. No recreational visitor facilities would be provided either inside or outside the area; administrative facilities would

MONUMENT AND PRESERVE AREAS

CURRENT USES CONTINUE

NO FACILITIES

INFREQUENT NPS MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES
(AERIAL PATROLS)



ALASKA
PENINSULA NWP

PORT HEIDEN

NO NPS FACILITIES
OCCASIONAL STAFF PRESENCE

PORT HEIDEN

MESHIM

BIRTHDAY CREEK

MESHIM RIVER

SUPRISING LAKE

THE SPATES

BLACK NOSE

ANIAKCHAK PEAK

MONUMENT

BIRTHDAY PASS

MOUNT MOUNTAIN

CINDER CONE

JAW MOUNTAIN

ELEPHANT MOUNTAIN

Pinnacle Mountain

MESHIM LAKE

CAPE HUMBOLDT

RIVER BEND

ANIAKCHAK BAY

AMBER BAY

THE TWINS

CAPE HUMBOLDT

ANIAKCHAK RIVER MOUTH

NO IMPROVED CABIN FACILITIES
INFREQUENT NPS MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES

ALASKA PENINSULA NWP

KUSILIK BAY

CAPE HUMBOLDT

SUTWICK ISLAND

OCEAN

CHIGNIK BAY

CHIGNIK BAY VILLAGE

NO NPS FACILITIES
OCCASIONAL STAFF PRESENCE

CHIGNIK VILLAGES

BERING OCEAN

MONUMENT BOUNDARY

PRESERVE BOUNDARY

COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP

AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING
(UNIMPROVED)

VILLAGE BUILDINGS

CABINS

ALTERNATIVE A

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be located to facilitate research, protection, and patrol activities. These would include seasonally occupied rented or constructed offices in both Port Heiden and one of the Chigniks (shared there with the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge) and ranger patrol cabins at Meshik Lake and at the mouth of Aniakchak River. A permanent area manager, a permanent resource management specialist, and three seasonal rangers would be assigned, with duties and skills emphasizing research and resource protection.

Private landowners would be encouraged to keep their lands undeveloped. If development were proposed, cooperative agreements would be negotiated to ensure compatible development. Elimination of subsurface oil and gas rights would be pursued if the owners expressed no immediate or future interest in exercising those rights. The National Park Service would take an active role in regional planning to encourage mutual understanding and consideration of how regional changes might relate to management of Aniakchak.

Development and use under alternative B is shown on the Alternative B map.

ALTERNATIVE C: PROVIDE FOR ADDITIONAL USE AND INCREASE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Management would anticipate future influences and provide a strategy for accommodating additional recreational and subsistence use. Research and resource protection activities would focus on ensuring that natural and cultural values were not degraded as a result of this additional use.

Cooperative research would be initiated as in alternative B, with expansion to questions of detecting and controlling impacts of nonconsumptive recreational use as it increased. Subsistence use and sport hunting and fishing would continue as in alternative B. Maintaining a wilderness-like experience would be the criterion for limiting increases in recreational use. Minimum facilities would be provided in those few critical areas especially attractive to recreational visitor use to maintain the wilderness experience in the larger surrounding areas. Specifically this would include identifying an overland hiking corridor between Port Heiden and the caldera rim, two separated tent frame shelters and sanitary facilities in the caldera, and a single similar shelter at the Aniakchak River mouth. All formal interpretation and information would be delivered outside the area except for that in incidental contacts with staff in the monument/preserve.

A permanent area manager would be assigned, reporting to the Superintendent of Katmai, wintering in King Salmon but spending long seasonal periods at Port Heiden in a rented or constructed office/housing facility. Two seasonal rangers in rented housing would operate out of Port Heiden and one in the Chigniks, with extensive air, foot, and small boat patrols within the monument/preserve, including areas of particular interest to recreational users. Skills and orientation of staff would be balanced between resource management and assistance to visitors. A ranger patrol cabin at the Aniakchak mouth or a shelter at Meshik Lake



- MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP
- AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING (UNIMPROVED)
- VILLAGE BUILDINGS
- CABINS



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ALTERNATIVE B

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would be provided separate from recreational visitor shelters if increased recreational use interfered with ranger activities. No encouragement would be given to private owners to develop visitor services on their lands in the caldera. Shelters proposed for NPS construction are the maximum consistent with the area's wilderness character. In areas such as Amber or Kujulik bays or along northward-flowing rivers where the potential for sport hunting or fishing is realistic, private development of limited scope to provide service for such users would be acceptable.

Development and use under this alternative is shown on the Alternative C map.

A comparison summary of the alternatives and the actual proposal (as described earlier in Part One) is provided in table 5.

ANIAKCHAK CALDERA AND RIVER

RECREATIONAL USE INCREASES
(CALDERA EXPLORATION
AND RIVER TRIPS)
VISITOR USE SHELTERS
OCCASIONAL NPS MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES AND VISITOR
ASSISTANCE

MONUMENT AREA

SUBSISTENCE USE
CONTINUES
NO FACILITIES
OCCASIONAL NPS
MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES

PRESERVE AREA

SUBSISTENCE USE AND SPORT
HUNTING, FISHING AND TRAPPING
CONTINUE
NO FACILITIES
OCCASIONAL NPS MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES (AERIAL PATROLS)

ALASKA
PENINSULA NWR

PORT HEIDEN

SEASONAL AREA MANAGER'S OFFICE
SEASONAL RANGER / VISITOR
INFORMATION STATION
VISITOR TRANSPORTATION AND
ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED BY
PRIVATE SECTOR
UNIMPROVED HIKING CORRIDOR
TO CALDERA

MESHIK LAKE AND RIVER

RECREATIONAL USE INCREASES
(RIVER TRIPS)
RANGER PATROL SHELTER
FREQUENT NPS MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES AND VISITOR
ASSISTANCE

ANIAKCHAK RIVER MOUTH

VISITOR USE SHELTER
IMPROVED PATROL CABIN
FREQUENT NPS MANAGEMENT
ACTIVITIES AND
VISITOR ASSISTANCE

CHIGNIK BAY VILLAGE

POSSIBLE SHARED FACILITY
WITH ALASKA PENINSULA NWR
VISITOR TRANSPORTATION AND
ACCOMMODATION PROVIDED BY
PRIVATE SECTOR

- MONUMENT BOUNDARY
- PRESERVE BOUNDARY
- COMMERCIAL AIRSTRIP
- AMPHIBIOUS AIRCRAFT LANDING
(UNIMPROVED)
- VILLAGE BUILDINGS
- CABINS
- INCREASING RECREATIONAL USE



0 25 50 MILES

ALTERNATIVE C

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Table 5. Comparison of the Proposal and Other Alternatives Considered

SUBJECT	PROPOSAL	ALTERNATIVE A	ALTERNATIVE B	ALTERNATIVE C
Guiding principles	Emphasize research and necessary resource management and protection; monitor use impacts	Continue minimum legally required management; react as problems arise	Increase resource management, protection, and research; continue and direct existing use	Increase resource management, protection, and research; accommodate additional use
Resource management and research	Cooperative state/federal research on wildlife viability with recommendations to state on regulations; cultural resource survey/protection	Minimum NPS involvement in research; dependent on state to assess wildlife viability; react when problems detected	Same as proposal	Same as proposal
Public use activities and access	Subsistence, sport harvest continued, limited by wildlife viability, sustainable use; access as provided by law	Subsistence, sport harvest as in proposal; no planning for any change in use; access as provided by law	Subsistence, sport harvest as in proposal; other recreational use not encouraged; access as provided by law	Subsistence, sport harvest as in proposal; recreational use increase anticipated, with immediate facilities and services access as provided by law
Visitor services and development	Visitor information and interpretation outside monument/preserve, no services inside	Information in King Salmon only; no other services or development	Information and interpretive materials at administrative sites; no other services or development	Information and interpretive materials at administrative sites, some assistance by rangers; shelters/sanitary facilities in caldera and Aniakchak River mouth without delay to judge need
Administrative structure and development	Administrative headquarters King Salmon/Katmai; permanent area manager, resource management specialist, seasonal rangers, village coordinators; no permanent offices in villages; patrol shelters in monument/pre-serve; aircraft overflights	Management from King Salmon with shared staff only; no other development; occasional aircraft overflights	Administrative headquarters King Salmon/Katmai; permanent area manager and resource management specialist seasonally at Port Heiden and APNWR facility, Chignik; seasonal rangers; patrol shelters in monument/pre-serve; aircraft overflights	Same as alternative B but rangers give more service to recreational visitors

Private interests: Koniag oil and gas rights	Neutral role but acquire oil and gas rights if offered	Passive role, accept status quo	Neutral role, control impacts, eventually acquire	Same as alternative B	
	Private land development	Cooperative agreements to ensure compatibility	Passive role, react if threats appear	Discourage private visitor facilities but use cooperative agreements	Private visitor facilities on some areas but need control
	Visitor services	Encourage private sector transportation	Passive role, allow under license	Same as alternative A	Same as proposal
Cabin use	Continues as law and regulation allows	Same as proposal	Same as proposal	Same as proposal	
Response to external influences	Active role in regional planning to promote understanding of Aniakchak's objectives	Passive, reactionary role in regional planning	Same as proposal	Same as proposal	

Cost	Staff salaries (annual)	Share Katmai staff	\$ 90,000	\$ 90,000
	Operating expenses (annual)	Share Katmai budget	\$ 45,000	\$ 41,000
	Construction (total)	None	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

The environmental impacts expected to occur as a result of implementing the proposed actions or the alternatives are discussed below for the natural, cultural, and socioeconomic environments in and around Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. These impacts are also summarized in table 6 to allow easy comparison of the effects of the proposal and the alternatives on particular elements of the environment. The compliance section lists the applicable laws, executive orders and regulations with which this planning document must comply, and how compliance has been or will be achieved. In addition, the "Land Protection Plan" presented earlier includes discussion of impacts related to current and potential use, development, and operational management of nonfederal lands within Aniakchak as well as the surrounding region.

The proposed management plan (detailed previously in Part One) is similar to alternative B but also contains elements of alternative C (see table 5). To avoid repetition, the impacts of the three original alternatives are described first, then a brief statement is included explaining how the impacts of the proposed plan's combination of alternatives B and C may differ from those already stated.

GENERAL IMPACTS

The management emphasis of each alternative would affect the degree of protection afforded natural and cultural resources. Alternative A would not provide any additional NPS support facilities within or near Aniakchak, and research or resource management activities would be infrequent and limited in scale. As a result, NPS ability to protect resources would be limited, and destruction or disturbance of certain resources could increase as the level of use increased.

Alternative B would not encourage increases in recreational use but would expand resource management and protection related to subsistence and other consumptive activities. This would provide better resource protection in some instances, but impacts associated with increases in the number of recreational visitors might be overlooked. Seasonal facilities in nearby communities and ranger patrol cabins/shelters within Aniakchak would be used to support research, resource inventory, and resource monitoring programs that would identify potential problems and enable management actions to prevent or minimize resource deterioration.

Alternative C would also expand resource management and protection activities but would provide for greater recreational use than alternative B. Resource management activities would be similar to alternative B, with additional management efforts that would include analyzing and controlling impacts of increased recreational use. Minimal facilities within Aniakchak would be provided to concentrate visitors so as to allow least possible impact on resources. Increased interpretive efforts would further reduce impacts on area resources by educating public users to be sensitive towards impacts that their uses might cause.

Table 6: Summary Comparison of Impacts

Impact	ALTERNATIVE A (Continue Minimum Management)	ALTERNATIVE B (Continue Existing Use While Increasing Resource Management and Protection)	ALTERNATIVE C (Provide for Additional Use and Increase Resource Management)	PROPOSAL (Emphasize Resource Management and Monitor Use Impacts)
General	Minimal protection of resources; greatest potential for resource deterioration associated with possible regional development/private development within Aniakchak	Increased protection of resources; less potential for resource deterioration associated with possible regional development/private development within Aniakchak	Same as alternative B	Same as alternative B
Natural Environment Soils and vegetation	Minor localized disturbance associated with low levels of dispersed camping	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative B; in addition, permanent loss of vegetation on less than 0.1 acre for shelters, with moderate disturbance in immediate vicinity of shelter	Same as alternative B
Air and water quality	Minor localized and temporary impacts associated with visitor use	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative A; in addition, minor localized and temporary impacts associated with facility construction	Same as alternative A
Fish and wildlife	Minor disturbance associated with low levels of visitor activity and hunting and fishing	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative A; in addition, loss of less than 0.1 acre of habitat in caldera and at Aniakchak Bay	Same as alternative A
Endangered and threatened species	No known impacts expected	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative A
Cultural Resources	Minimum protection provided	Minimum protection plus eventual survey, evaluation, and research	Same as alternative B, with some adaptive restoration	Same as alternative B
Socioeconomic Environment Subsistence	Continued opportunity for harvests; minor competition and conflicts with recreational users	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative A	Same as alternative A
Recreation	Unstructured wilderness experience throughout the monument and preserve, but potential for loss of solitude without any control on increasing use	Limits on increasing nonconsumptive use protects wilderness experience but prevents some visitors from coming	Protection of wilderness experience for increasing numbers of visitors requires some controls on visitor freedom to minimize resource damage and conflicts with other visitors	Same as alternative A
Regional/local economy	Minor potential for providing economic growth; minor potential for local hires	Same as alternative A, except increased potential for local hires	Increased potential for economic growth in local communities; increased potential for local hires; and minor effect on Port Heiden and the Chignik from NPS operations and seasonal staff	Same as alternative B
Park operations and management	Minimal management requirements and costs	Increased management requirements and intermediate costs	Greatest management requirements and costs	Same as alternative B

On a monument/preserve-wide scale, neither the proposal nor any alternative should cause significant impacts on natural resources because of the low levels of use expected over the next 10 to 15 years and the limited development proposed. However, localized disturbances could result from visitor use and development. By in effect ignoring increased public use, alternatives A and B might result in localized impacts because of failure to monitor changes. Alternative C, by providing some facilities to concentrate visitors, would create localized impacts during initial construction and later use, but would avoid dispersed impacts elsewhere.

The proposed plan is essentially alternative B with minor modifications. The emphasis on resource management would be retained, but the administrative structure for management would be altered to eliminate seasonal ranger stations in the nearby villages. Like alternative B, the proposal assumes that little increase in recreational use would take place in the next 5 to 10 years; therefore, no visitor use limits or physical development to control use are considered necessary. However, monitoring to detect the impacts that might indicate eventual need for restrictions is proposed.

Although levels of use within Aniakchak itself are expected to remain low, a variety of potential changes in land use, transportation, and community character are being discussed for the immediate area around Aniakchak and for the Bristol Bay region as a whole. Subsequent growth in local communities and large-scale resource development would be a potential source of environmental degradation and could significantly increase demands for subsistence, recreational, and sport use within Aniakchak.

When and if such changes do occur, the potential for resource deterioration and user conflicts would depend on levels of use at that time and on the scope of NPS resource management activities. The potential for impacts would be greatest if alternative A was chosen because of the reactionary nature of NPS responses, the limited capability to protect resources, and the lack of a precedent in directing levels of use. The potential for impacts would be less and about equal for alternatives B and C and the proposal because increased resource protection would be combined with direction and monitoring of visitor activities. The impacts of external influences on resource protection are further detailed in the "Land Protection Plan."

IMPACTS ON NATURAL RESOURCES

Soils and Vegetation

With current levels of dispersed use (unknown for subsistence groups and estimated at only four or five hunting groups and no more than one or two rafting/hiking parties per year), there is virtually no evidence of impacts on soils and vegetation and no established human trails. If the theoretical considerations concerning trends and projections in recreational use (discussed earlier in the "Affected Environment" section) are correct, the extent of this use could easily increase several hundred percent under any of the alternatives.

Under alternatives A and B and the proposal, dispersed camping would continue to occur primarily in the caldera and along the Aniakchak River, which could result in a few hundred square feet of localized removal or trampling of vegetation, soil compaction, and erosion at five or six favored sites on the south shore of Surprise Lake and at one or two sites around Meshik Lake.

Alternative C would accommodate increased use but mitigate impacts of such use by increasing monitoring and control of potentially disruptive visitor activities. Visitor use shelters and sanitary facilities would be provided in three of the most heavily used locations in order to passively attract visitors and create concentrated use areas. This concentration would result in localized disturbance to soils and vegetation, but it would limit impacts to a smaller area than would be affected by continued dispersed camping.

The construction of facilities within Aniakchak in alternatives B and C, such as three shelters for recreational users or NPS staff, would result in ground disturbance and selective removal of vegetation in areas totaling less than 1/4 acre. Facilities considered in alternatives B and C outside the monument/ preserve, such as two offices in the villages or a joint visitor facility in King Salmon, would be located in areas already affected by human use.

If existing buildings could not be acquired for these facilities, their construction would affect less than 1 acre for each facility. The proposal calls only for temporary office rentals in the nearby villages so no new construction impacts would be expected. Impacts of a joint visitor facility in King Salmon would have to be assessed separately.

Wetland areas would not be affected nor would facilities be located in a floodplain in any of the alternatives or the proposal. There are no prime or unique farmlands within Aniakchak.

Conclusion. Inside the monument/preserve the proposal provides for no initial construction but would monitor vegetation and soil impacts. It is presumed that this monitoring would detect unacceptable levels of disturbance and signal any need to reassess the policy of dispersed camping without facilities. Outside the monument/preserve the proposal calls for no new facilities except in King Salmon, where separate assessment of any joint NPS/FWS operated visitor facility would be undertaken before construction is authorized.

Air and Water Quality

Expected increases in public use or development of facilities under any of the alternatives would have no detectable long-term effects on the air quality of the monument/preserve, which is now considered pristine. There would be no impoundment, diversion, or obstruction of any natural hydrological systems.

There is potential for some localized contamination of surface waters by human waste around favored camping sites in alternatives A and B and

the proposal, which provide no sanitary facilities. Construction of sanitary facilities and shelters under alternative C would initially cause localized disturbance to soils and nearby water, but avoid the later problem of contamination by human waste. Outside the monument/preserve, alternatives B and C would result in localized, temporary air and water pollution from construction on private lands if the National Park Service could not acquire existing building space in one of the Chignik communities and Port Heiden. Dust and emissions from construction vehicles and equipment and wind erosion of disturbed soils would temporarily degrade air quality. Water erosion of disturbed soils would temporarily increase sedimentation of local watercourses. All required water and wastewater disposal systems would comply with applicable laws, regulations, and environmental standards, and no significant impacts would occur from their operation.

Conclusion. The proposed monitoring appears to be an adequate safeguard for the next several years. Constructing sanitary facilities before they are needed may create unnecessary local water quality impacts in excess of the impacts of infrequent dispersed camping and risks artificially attracting visitors. Since no construction would take place in the villages under the proposal, impacts from construction would be avoided.

Fish and Wildlife

Subsistence fish and wildlife harvest is not quantitatively known for Aniakchak. Sport fishing and hunting is inadequately reported but is probably on the order of four or five guided groups annually. Bear hunting is the most likely attraction, since caribou are more accessible in many other areas, and fishing has never been particularly attractive in Aniakchak.

The continued regulation of wildlife and fisheries harvest is a minimum requirement of all alternatives; impacts on wildlife from these consumptive uses would be in proportion to the effectiveness of that regulation. Under the minimal staffing and reactionary response policy of alternative A, it would take a longer period to detect potential problems than under the research/monitoring approach of alternatives B and C and the proposal. Problems left relatively long before detection generally take more radical, regulatory solutions and create greater fluctuations in the harvested species than do closely monitored harvests. Actual enforcement of regulations would best be accomplished in alternatives B, C, and the proposal through increased protection efforts. In general, however, the current or anticipated low intensity of both subsistence and sport harvest is not expected to create serious specific wildlife or fishery problems.

Regardless of the alternative selected, the Aniakchak caldera, the Aniakchak River and its mouth, and the Meshik River and Meshik Lake are anticipated to be the focus of increased hiking, rafting, and other recreational activities over the next 10 to 15 years. Brown bear frequent most river corridors and all of the preserve's Pacific shorelines during the summer and fall; an increase in bear-human encounters would likely occur. Whether this interaction would result in displacing bears would

depend on the actual number of encounters and perhaps on the degree to which visitors have been educated to avoid disturbing the bears. Disruption of caribou during their spring calving season and of moose feeding on winter range is not expected to occur because these visitor uses are confined to the summer season.

As hiking, rafting, and other recreational activities increase, some minor disturbance to waterfowl and small mammals feeding or nesting along the Aniakchak River can be expected. However, for activities not associated with hunting, some accommodation to human presence would likely occur. If powerboat use along the lower Aniakchak and aircraft use for pickup and dropoff increase, wildlife could be displaced from those areas, particularly raptors and other birds during their nesting period and marine mammals during haulouts. The monitoring proposed in alternatives B, C, and the proposal should be able to detect and therefore mitigate such disturbances if they increase with increasing public use. An increase in aircraft overflights associated with visitor use, administration, and the proposed research/monitoring could also have an impact on wildlife. Those flights associated with hiking/rafting pickup would occur in midsummer and would probably not affect spring caribou calving. However, administrative and research flights could also take place at other times and therefore overlap critical wildlife events such as caribou calving, moose winter feeding, and bear feeding concentrations.

Some wildlife habitat would be directly reduced within Aniakchak by placement of three primitive shelters in alternative C. The area involved in each case would be less than 0.1 acre, but some small mammals and birds would probably be displaced from a larger area in the vicinity. Shelter sites would be selected so as to minimize these potential disruptive effects on wildlife.

Conclusion. Regardless of the alternative selected, increased use particularly by sport hunters, fishermen, hikers, and rafters can be expected in Aniakchak. This use would focus on attractive areas, and at least for the specific period of use, some wildlife would be displaced in those areas. Whether this displacement would become permanent and have significant impacts on local wildlife population numbers is unknown. The proposal, while not suggesting direct limitation on increasing use, does provide for research and monitoring, which should detect significant wildlife impacts if they begin to occur. Education of the visitor and requirement of minimum-impact camping are steps proposed to minimize wildlife displacement and disturbance.

Endangered and Threatened Species

No plant species under review for designation as endangered or threatened are known to occur within Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. No federally listed endangered or threatened wildlife species are known to reside or frequent habitats within the monument/preserve. Therefore, no impacts on endangered and threatened species are anticipated. No important marine mammal resources such as breeding beaches are located within preserve boundaries. No increased disturbance of mammals using near-shore (state-owned) waters is anticipated under the proposal or any of the alternatives.

Scenic and Wilderness Resources

Scenic resource impacts are limited to visual impact of two shelter platforms and sanitary facilities in the caldera and one shelter platform at the mouth of Aniakchak River, all in alternative C. These small structures would be located to provide shelter from wind and rain, and their visibility from the air or ground would be minimized by blending the structure into the landscape through site selection and construction materials. However, these structures would undoubtedly be visible for some distance, thus creating an intrusion for some visitors.

None of the physical developments and uses proposed are inconsistent with legally allowed use and development should Aniakchak be ultimately designated as wilderness. However, if public use doubles or more, including associated aircraft landings, this increase may, to some observers, constitute a degradation of the area's wilderness value. None of the alternatives nor the proposal would seek to encourage such increased use; however, the immediate construction of shelters and other staff activities in nearby villages proposed in alternative C might have the effect of encouraging increased use.

Conclusion. The proposed action is that there be no visitor use facility development; however, some increase in visitation at Aniakchak is anticipated regardless of any NPS action. That increase may, to some observers, constitute degradation of the wilderness experience. The proposed monitoring of physical impacts and interaction between groups should detect changes in wilderness values so that consideration of appropriate restrictions can be made in the future.

IMPACTS ON CULTURAL RESOURCES

Known cultural resources inside the monument/preserve consist of a few structures dating from historical times and relating to the fishing industry or an isolated family's subsistence lifestyle. Prehistoric sites and artifacts have not yet been discovered, but the potential for such sites is quite likely.

The goal of protecting all cultural resources is incorporated in all alternatives. Implementation of protective measures, however, would be most effective under alternatives B and C and the proposal because of increased staff presence and a more active policy towards research. Cultural resources research under these same alternatives and the proposal would more quickly result in necessary survey work to locate and evaluate historic and prehistoric sites than the passive approach proposed in alternative A.

If adaptive restoration of the APA bunkhouse at the Aniakchak River mouth was accomplished, it would be in accordance with NPS "Cultural Resource Management Guidelines" (NPS-28) and cultural resources preservation regulations appropriate to the significance eventually assigned to that structure.

Conclusion. The increase in staff and the survey/monitoring called for in the proposal would provide more cultural resource protection than the minimum protection approach would provide.

IMPACTS ON THE SOCIOECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

Subsistence

In addition to the discussion of the impacts on subsistence use that follows, refer to the ANILCA section 810 subsistence evaluation in appendix I.

Currently there is little or no competition and conflict between subsistence users and sporthunters or nonconsumptive recreation users because these latter uses do not occur very often. Should sporthunting and other recreational uses increase, there would be the potential for conflict with subsistence use in a few specific areas where this overlap occurred.

Increased competition between subsistence hunting and recreational sporthunting could occur as a result of more recreational hunting, but whether recreational hunting in Aniakchak will increase over the next 10 to 15 years is unknown. Current use patterns indicate that areas within Aniakchak used by recreational hunters do not coincide with lands traditionally used for subsistence except southwest of Meshik Lake along the Meshik River valley, where villagers of Port Heiden take moose and caribou. However, as lands adjacent to Aniakchak selected by native corporations are actually conveyed, there could be a substantial shift in recreational hunting from those private lands to federal lands still open to hunting such as in Aniakchak preserve or the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge. The monitoring proposed in alternatives B and C would detect these shifts whereas alternative A probably would not.

Conflicts between nonconsumptive recreation users and subsistence users could arise, particularly along the lower Aniakchak River and the Meshik River corridors, since these corridors are also used for subsistence harvest of caribou. Increased rafting and camping could temporarily drive wildlife back from these rivers. These conflicts are unlikely to be serious because of seasonally different use patterns. Should such conflicts arise, they would be resolved in favor of subsistence use under all alternatives and the proposal.

Minor conflicts between other users and subsistence users could occur from competition for use of one or two existing unoccupied public use cabins. Facilities proposed in alternative C would minimize those conflicts by providing an alternate structure in the same area. Alternative A would ignore the problems until conflicts became apparent.

Conclusion. The proposal would not place any immediate restrictions on subsistence use. However, it would initiate research and survey efforts (in cooperation with other federal agencies and the state), which could eventually lead to such restrictions in order to ensure sustained long-term subsistence use. Increased use of Aniakchak by sport

hunters, fishermen, and nonconsumptive recreation visitors is a possibility regardless of actions proposed or considered. Some specific areas of conflict with subsistence use are also possible. The proposal, with its emphasis on research and monitoring, should provide timely notice of when and where such conflicts are developing, so that they may be resolved in favor of subsistence use.

Recreational Opportunities

All alternatives and the proposal would retain the general natural character of the environment and maintain existing opportunities for an isolated wilderness experience. There would be low NPS visibility and little contact with monument/preserve staff. Visitors would be required to meet the land on its own terms and encouraged to leave behind no traces of their use. Self-reliant, wilderness-oriented users would be the most likely visitors attracted to the area. Primitive conditions without facilities could preclude many potential users, including the elderly, handicapped, and many families.

Increased recreational use may be expected regardless of NPS actions since no alternative would place numerical restrictions on increases. Therefore, the numbers of visitors could be the same under all alternatives. Only in alternative C would there be efforts to indirectly control visitor use by providing designated campsites and some facilities. Even under these circumstances no limits are arbitrarily set on total numbers.

Alternative A would provide the lowest level of safety for users since NPS presence would be limited and infrequent and directed toward resource protection. There would be no established management strategy to handle possible future conflicts between various recreational users.

Alternative B would take no action to anticipate significant increases in recreational use. As in alternative A there would be no facilities, little visitor contact, and few safety or interpretive programs. Visitors requiring such services may choose to go elsewhere and thus miss the opportunity to appreciate a recreational experience at Aniakchak.

Shelter platforms and sanitary facilities proposed in alternative C would provide for some increased visitor safety and comfort. Ranger patrols would provide increased information and emergency assistance to visitors. The character of the current wilderness experience would be preserved by spacing recreational groups.

Conclusion. The proposal would not substantially increase or decrease the recreational opportunities available at Aniakchak. Consistent with the guiding principle of maintaining Aniakchak as a wild area, the proposal would not diminish the high standards of individual initiative, self-reliance, self-sufficiency, and physical preparedness required to visit Aniakchak.

Regional/Local Economy

Increased visitation can be expected to occur under all of the alternatives, although total numbers should remain relatively low. Increased visitation could benefit private sector guide services and air-taxi companies in King Salmon and Port Heiden, but the opportunity for private economic gain from providing these or other visitor services would probably remain low because of expected low visitor use levels. Except in alternative C, there would be no promotion or encouragement for increased visitation and therefore no stimulus to the private sector to develop local tourist facilities.

Under alternative A, no new NPS facilities would be required, the staff would remain quite small, and the opportunities for local hires would remain limited. Alternatives B and C would increase seasonal staffing requirements and thus increase the potential for local hires. Alternative C would station seasonal employees at Port Heiden and in one of the Chignik villages; the proposal would provide for local resident coordinators in these locations. There would be some increase in cash income for residents of the communities derived from renting facilities or property to the NPS or providing other goods and services. The staff, however, would be small in number in any alternative and would have only a minor effect on facilities and services of these communities.

Conclusion. The proposal would provide no direct encouragement to increased use. If there were any stimulus to the local or regional economy from increased tourism, it would be an indirect impact. Two village coordinators would be locally hired, and there would be an opportunity for other local hires, e.g., the two seasonal rangers.

Park Management, Operations, Staffing, and Budget

Alternative A would provide limited NPS capability to manage and protect monument/preserve resources and to respond to visitor needs because of the infrequent management activities in Aniakchak. Access would be difficult for NPS staff. Development and operation costs would be the lowest under alternative A (see table 7 for cost and staffing comparison of alternatives).

Alternative B would improve NPS capability to manage and protect resources through increased management activities. The emphasis would be on understanding and controlling wildlife harvest, contacts with subsistence and sport users would be most frequent, and interaction with nonconsumptive recreation visitors would be limited. Access for NPS staff would be improved by having village offices and some temporary shelters inside the monument/preserve.

Alternative C would improve NPS capability to manage and protect resources similar to alternative B. Additional management emphasis would be devoted to controlling visitor use. Contacts with visitors and subsistence users would be increased within Aniakchak as would contacts made in local communities. Facilities within Aniakchak and local communities would increase operation and maintenance needs. Costs would be the highest under this alternative.

Table 7: Staffing, Operation, Research, and Development Cost Comparisons Among Alternatives

Alternative or Proposal (category)	Description	Number of Years to Full Implementation	Typical Future Year
<u>Staffing*</u>			
A	No separate staff; share with Katmai 10% of GS-13 manager, GS-12 chief ranger and GS-9 resource management specialist plus $\frac{1}{4}$ man-year seasonal GS-5	Already staffed in this manner	\$ 6,000
B	Permanent GS-12 area manager, permanent GS-9 resource management specialist, 1.5 man-year seasonal GS-5	5	90,000
C	Same as alternative B	5	90,000
Proposal	Permanent GS-12 area manager, permanent GS-9 resource management specialist, 1.0 man-year seasonal GS-5, 1.0 man-year village coordinator GS-3	5	109,000
<u>Operation*</u>			
A	Aircraft time (10% of Katmai) equipment, travel	Already operating	49,000
B	Aircraft time, new equipment, maintenance, rental of ranger stations (2), staff quarters (2) in villages	3	45,000
C	Same as alternative B plus interpretive materials	3	41,000
Proposal	Aircraft time, new equipment, maintenance, village office rentals (2), interpretive materials	2	43,000
<u>Research</u>			
A	Essentially none proposed	--	--
B	Broad focus on natural and cultural resources research and monitoring of harvest	5+	**

* Details of grade level, seasonal time, and operations are only for comparison and are subject to change.

<u>Alternative or Proposal (category)</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Implementation</u>	<u>Future Year</u>
C	Same as alternative B plus monitoring hiking, camping impacts	5+	**
Proposal	Same as alternative C	5+	**
<u>Development</u>			
A	No physical development	--	--
B	Adaptive restoration of one public use cabin (APA bunkhouse), construction of one administrative shelter	2	--
C	Same as alternative B plus three visitor tent shelter frames and marked hiking corridor (15 mi)	3	--
Proposal	Adaptive restoration one public use cabin (APA bunkhouse, three portable administrative use shelters, marked hiking corridor (15 mi), share of King Salmon information facility	5	--

**Research project costs have not yet been established.

The proposal would eliminate permanent offices and seasonal staff in the villages, but substitute part-time resident coordinators. Administrative costs would be less, but some loss of efficiency can be expected because neither the area manager nor the seasonal rangers would have a local office.

COMPLIANCE

None of the proposed alternative actions would affect wetland areas; therefore, all alternatives would be in compliance with Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands). Since no floodplain mapping exists for the monument/preserve, worst-case conditions would be assumed for placement of facilities in alternatives B and C or the proposal, with the development of new facilities preceded by site-specific analysis. Therefore, all actions would be in compliance with Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management). Backcountry camping involves no facilities and has no potential for effects on floodplains and is exempt from compliance with the NPS "Floodplain Management and Wetland Protection Guidelines."

Coastal development activity would be confined to Aniakchak Bay. Alternative B would improve an existing cabin facility, and alternative C and the contingency plan in the proposal would provide a visitor use shelter. The specific elements of these alternatives are believed to conform with the Estuary Protection Act (16 USC 1221), the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972 (16 USC 1431 et seq.), and the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 USC 1451 et seq.). A determination of consistency with the Coastal Zone Management Act is included in appendix J.

The increments of water and air pollution resulting from implementation of any of the alternatives are expected to be too minor to measure or to require compliance with the Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 USC 1251 et seq.) or the Clean Air Act (42 USC 7401 et seq.). Water drawn for human consumption would be treated to meet state and federal standards in conformity with the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 USC 300).

No federally listed endangered or threatened wildlife are known to live in, or depend for existence on, habitats within Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. Thus, formal consultation procedures with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are not required for compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 as amended (16 USC 1531 et seq.). Additional consultation will be achieved through the review of this document by the Fish and Wildlife Service. The presence of two endangered species is possible but not documented. If either of these species was found during implementation of the proposed plan, the Fish and Wildlife Service would be contacted, and appropriate measures would be taken to ensure their protection. None of the 29 plant taxa being considered for possible future listing pursuant to the Endangered Species Act have been recorded from Aniakchak.

No prime or unique farmland would be adversely affected by implementation of the proposal.

Subsistence use and sportfishing in the monument and preserve and sporthunting, fishing, and trapping in the preserve would continue to be regulated by the state in accordance with established laws and regulations.

All public facilities outside the monument/preserve would be accessible to the handicapped to the extent possible and would comply with the requirements of the Architectural Barriers Act of 1968 (42 USC 4151 et seq.).

All proposed actions would be in full compliance with the Antiquities Act of 1906 (16 USC 431 et seq.), the Historic Sites Act of 1935 as amended (PL 94-458), the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 USC 470 et seq. as amended by PL 96-515), the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974, and the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. All proposals and activities affecting or relating to cultural resources will be developed and executed with the active participation of professional historians, archeologists, anthropologists, and historical architects in accordance with NPS "Management Policies" and NPS-28. No undertaking that would result in the destruction or loss of known significant cultural resources is proposed in this document.

In accordance with the 1982 NPS native American relationship policy, a thorough effort has been made to identify all native corporations and local native American groups and individuals who would be interested in participating in this planning effort and who have traditional ties with the monument/preserve. The planning team has contacted representatives of these groups at various stages of the plan's development. These individuals and groups have been placed on Aniakchak's mailing list and will continue to be consulted, invited to all public meetings, and sent copies of all public information documents for review and comment.

CONSULTATION AND COORDINATION

INITIAL CONTACTS AND SCOPING

Prior to fieldwork in July 1983 a variety of contacts were made to gather information and discuss the objectives, scope, and timetable for development of the draft general management plan and associated documents. Present at these meetings or individually contacted were representatives of the following:

- Alaska State Conservation System Unit Coordinator
- Alaska Land Use Council
- Alaska Department of Fish and Game (Anchorage and King Salmon)
- Citizens Advisory Commission on Federal Areas
- Alaska Federation of Natives
- Assistant to Assistant Secretary for Fish, Wildlife and Parks
- Alaska Department of Natural Resources (BBCMP coordinator)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (resource planners)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Alaska Peninsula NWR)
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation
- Paugh-Vik Village Corporation
- U.S. Geological Survey (Anchorage-volcanologist)
- U.S. Geological Survey (Anchorage-EROS)
- State Historic Preservation Office (consultation letter)
- Alaska Council on Historic Preservation (consultation letter)

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT FOR ISSUES AND ALTERNATIVES

Based on these initial contacts, fieldwork, and the Statement for Management, an "Issues and Management Alternatives" workbook was produced in February 1984. Approximately 240 of these workbooks were mailed to private individuals and nongovernment organizations, and about 100 were distributed to state and federal agencies and joint commissions who routinely receive NPS documents. An additional 50 documents were distributed in early May 1984 at informal public meetings on Aniakchak's alternatives in the following locations: Anchorage, Kodiak, Chignik Lagoon, Chignik Bay, Chignik Lake, Port Heiden, King Salmon, and Naknek.

Of the 240 workbooks sent to private individuals and organizations, 15 responses were received (6 percent), 2 favoring alternative A, 7 favoring alternative B, 4 favoring alternative C, and 2 suggesting a combination. Of the 100 sent to government agencies, 3 written responses were received (State CSU Coordinator, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and Citizens Advisory Commission on Federal Areas). Attendance at the public meetings ranged from a low of 3 in Anchorage to a high of 15 in Port Heiden.

Relatively low public interest at least at this stage of planning is presumed to reflect lack of public knowledge about Aniakchak, relatively low potential for controversy, and a possible choice to reserve comment until the draft general management plan becomes available. Though

diverse, the general tone of both written and verbal comment can be summarized as follows.

Though the question of a formal wilderness designation is not being addressed at this time, virtually all responses favored retention of an undeveloped wilderness-like character for Aniakchak. Most opposed development of any facilities either within or outside Aniakchak that would in themselves encourage increased public use; those few favoring such development indicated that the justification for development should be to control the impacts of increasing use rather than to stimulate that use. Local village residents were almost unanimous in their desire to see virtually no change in use or management, particularly if any increase in use by visitors from outside would have an effect on their subsistence use patterns or the commercial fishing industry. There was no sense of an urgent desire to create a local tourism industry based on Aniakchak. The state welcomed the potential for increased cooperation on fish and wildlife matters as well as clearly defined statements of responsibility. Those who chose to favor a single alternative as proposed in the workbook generally favored alternative B; those who constructed a new approach or combined alternatives generally called for a flexible response to increasing use if and when the demonstrated need arose, and suggested that the most realistic estimate is that little increase in demand, or regional development, will actually take place in the next 5-10 years.

The draft general management plan presented in Part One of this document reflects the considered recommendations of the Aniakchak planning team based on this public involvement, other individual contacts, field observations, and an analysis of the legislative mandate. This draft is now being circulated for its period of formal public review as required by ANILCA section 1301(d), and revisions, as appropriate, will be made prior to completion of a final approved plan.



APPENDIXES

- A: Summary of ANILCA Provisions
- B: Management Objectives
- C: Master Memorandum of Understanding
- D: Summary of Proposed Resource Management Projects from Draft Resource Management Plan
- E: Summary of Access Provisions
- F: Federal Regulations - 36 CFR 13
- G: Cost and Implementation Schedule for the Proposal
- H: Wild River Management Guidelines
- I: ANILCA Section 810 Subsistence Evaluation
- J. Determination of Consistency with Alaska Coastal Zone Management Policies

A: SUMMARY OF ANILCA PROVISIONS

The Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA, Public Law 96-487, December 2, 1980) provides for "the designation and conservation of certain public lands in the State of Alaska, including the designation of units of the national park, national wildlife refuge, national forest, national wild and scenic rivers, and national wilderness preservation systems, and for other purposes". The following provisions of this act have either been specifically referred to in the general management plan, or are particularly relevant to Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve. This summary is in no way a substitute for the full text of the law, but is for reference only.

Section 101 - (a) basically establishes all the new park system units in Alaska, (b) identifies values to be protected, and (c) provides for the continued opportunity for rural residents to engage in a subsistence way of life consistent with the purposes of the unit.

Section 103 - (b) provides for minor boundary adjustments not to increase or decrease the total unit acreage by 23,000 acres.

Section 201 (verbatim) - (1) establishes the area, as follows:

Aniakchak National Monument, containing approximately one hundred and thirty-eight thousand acres of public lands, and Aniakchak National Preserve, containing approximately three hundred and seventy-six thousand acres of public lands, as generally depicted on map numbered ANIA-90,005, and dated October 1978. The monument and preserve shall be managed for the following purposes, among others: To maintain the caldera and its associated volcanic features and landscape, including the Aniakchak River and other lakes and streams, in their natural state; to study, interpret, and assure continuation of the natural process of biological succession; to protect habitat for, and populations of, fish and wildlife, including, but not limited to, brown/grizzly bears, moose, caribou, sea lions, seals, and other marine mammals, geese, swans, and other waterfowl and in a manner consistent with the foregoing, to interpret geological and biological processes for visitors. Subsistence uses by local residents shall be permitted in the monument where such uses are traditional in accordance with the provisions of title VIII.

Section 203 - provides for subsistence uses by local residents, and for hunting (within the preserve); prohibits charging entry fees.

Section 206 - withdraws federal lands within the monument and preserve (subject to existing rights) from appropriation or disposal under public land laws, including location, entry, and patent under the U.S. mining laws, disposition under the mineral leasing laws, and from future selection by the state and native corporations.

Section 601 - amends the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act to include the Aniakchak River and its major tributaries, Hidden Creek, Mystery Creek, Albert Johnson Creek, and North Fork Aniakchak River.

Section 605 - (a) provides that the Aniakchak River and its designated tributaries be administered as a wild river pursuant to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Title VIII - provides for subsistence management and use, and authorizes the state to enact and implement laws of general applicability. The title covers a broad range of subjects, including the policy of providing opportunities for rural residents to engage in a subsistence way of life, the definition of what subsistence use means, and a distinction between healthy populations of fish and wildlife in all conservation units and natural and healthy populations within parks and monuments. Priority of subsistence use over other use of fish and wildlife is established and priority criteria are set if it should be necessary to restrict subsistence users. A provision for local and regional participation in the consideration of subsistence matters is also outlined. Judicial enforcement, subsistence resource commissions, land use decisions, access, and closure to subsistence uses are also discussed.

Title IX - is a broad collection of sections regarding ANILCA's relationship to ANCSA and the Alaska Statehood Act. It is a technical description of procedures for selection and conveyance of lands and landowners' rights. Section 907 establishes the Alaska Land Bank program, of possible use by Aniakchak landowners. Section 910 eliminates the necessity of environmental impact statement preparation for conveyance to natives and native corporations. Section 911 (amending another act) lists specific lands within Aniakchak on which selection of the subsurface estate may be made by Koniag Inc.

Section 1110 - (a) provides for the use of snowmachines, motorboats, airplanes, and nonmotorized surface transportation for traditional activities and for travel to and from villages and homesites; (b) assures access, under reasonable regulation, for owners of state or privately owned lands including subsurface estate owners.

Section 1111 - (a) provides that the state or a private landowner will be allowed temporary access across the monument/preserve for purposes of survey, geophysical, exploratory, or other temporary uses that will not permanently harm the resources of the preserve.

Section 1201 - establishes the Alaska Land Use Council and directs it to conduct studies and advise its members with respect to ongoing, planned, and proposed land and resource uses.

Section 1301 - provides that within five years from the enactment of ANILCA (December 1, 1980) a conservation and management plan is to be submitted to Congress for each new unit of the national park system or any unit to which additions were made by ANILCA. Each plan will consider the purposes of the unit, its resources, activities adjacent to the unit, and opportunities to provide for continuing traditional activities of Alaska natives. The plans will contain maps, programs, and methods for

managing resources; a description of proposed development; a plan of access and circulation; a description of programs and methods for protecting the cultural heritage of resident individuals and for encouraging their employment; and a plan for land acquisition and boundary adjustments. Each plan will include a description of private lands within or surrounding the area and their existing or proposed uses, as well as cooperative agreements that could or should be entered into to improve the management of the unit and the activities carried out on the private lands. In developing, preparing, and revising the plans, public hearings will be held, and the participation of the Alaska Land Use Council, the state of Alaska, native corporations, and concerned organizations and individuals will be permitted.

Section 1302 - (a) and (b) provide basic land acquisition authority; lands may be acquired by purchase, donation, exchange, or otherwise. However, lands owned by the state or its political subdivisions, by native corporations or groups, or by occupants with existing prior rights or a spouse or lineal descendants, may only be acquired with the consent of the owner. Lands may not be acquired if they have been conveyed pursuant to ANCSA section 14(c)(1) unless the secretary of the interior determines that activities on the tract are or will be detrimental to the purposes of the unit. Lands contiguous to the preserve that are owned or selected by the state may be acquired by the secretary through donation or exchange. Section (i) provides authorization to acquire by donation or exchange lands contiguous to the monument/preserve owned or selected by the state.

Section 1306 - provides that the secretary of the interior may lease or acquire by purchase, donation, exchange, or any other means (except condemnation) real property (other than federal land), office space, housing, and other facilities outside the monument/preserve boundaries that are necessary for the administration of the unit. This section also authorizes memoranda of agreement with other federal agency landowners. This authority provides the means for establishing administrative facilities outside the unit if necessary for the preservation, protection, and proper management of the monument/preserve.

Section 1308 - provides that local persons with special knowledge and skills concerning the resources of a unit and the management thereof may be hired for any position within the unit. In selecting these persons, civil service laws and regulations, employment preference, and numerical limitations may be disregarded.

Section 1313 - provides that preserves will be managed in the same manner as a national park or monument except that the taking of fish and wildlife for sport purposes and subsistence uses, and trapping will be allowed under applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

Section 1314 - provides that the state of Alaska has the responsibility and authority for managing fish and wildlife on public lands, and the secretary of the interior has responsibility and authority over the management of public lands. Areas designated as national parks or monuments will be closed to the taking of wildlife, but fishing will be permitted according to applicable state and federal laws. Subsistence uses by local rural residents will also be permitted.

Section 1315 - (c) provides that public use cabins within wilderness designated by ANILCA may continue to be used, maintained, and replaced. Section (d) provides for the construction and maintenance of new public use cabins and shelters if such construction is harmonious with the wilderness setting.

Section 1317 - provides that all lands within national park system units that are not designated as wilderness are to be reviewed by December 2, 1985, as to their suitability or unsuitability for preservation as wilderness. The results of the review will be sent to the president, who will make recommendations to Congress by December 2, 1987.

Section 1427 - (b) directs the secretary of the interior to convey certain lands on Afognak Island in full satisfaction for selection by or conveyances already made to village and/or regional corporations inside Aniakchak. Excepted from such conveyance are the in-lieu gas and oil and sand and gravel rights of Koniag Inc. to lands within Aniakchak specified by section 15 of the Act of January 2, 1976 (PL 94-204) as amended by ANILCA section 911, and additional lands within Aniakchak specified by ANILCA section 1427(g)(3). Exclusion of hard-rock mineral rights from such conveyances is contained in 1427(i).

B: MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES

ADMINISTRATION

Conduct, sponsor, and encourage continuing studies and other information-gathering methods so that management has increased data on which to base decisions.

Study alternatives to determine the most effective administrative arrangements such as locating a headquarters and providing the staff, facilities, equipment, and support services necessary to manage the resources of the monument and preserve and serve the visiting public.

Prepare and implement a staffing plan in accordance with local hire provisions of ANILCA and recognizing the knowledge and skills of local persons and the effects of working under severe environmental conditions.

Work cooperatively with the state of Alaska, local governments, and native interests in order to arrive at appropriate management plans and activities compatible with the purposes of the monument and preserve.

NATURAL RESOURCES

Manage natural resources of the monument and preserve for the purpose of perpetuating the ecological processes and systems.

Place particular management emphasis on the caldera and its associated volcanic features and on plant and animal communities typifying natural succession so that these outstanding resources may be adequately protected.

Develop and implement plans for the perpetuation of wildlife and their habitat while simultaneously accommodating sport hunting in the preserve and subsistence activities and sport fishing throughout the monument and preserve.

Work toward accomplishing cooperative agreements with Alaska Department of Fish and Game and Public Safety, local government entities, Koniag Native Corporation and village corporations, and private interests for monitoring and perpetuating the area's natural resources.

Work cooperatively with private interests--particularly the oil and gas industries--to maintain high environmental standards incidental to exploration and, potentially, development activities.

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Identify and evaluate the unit's historical, archeological, and cultural resources in a manner consistent with NPS policies and legislative and executive requirements.

Assemble cultural resource information--including oral and written information from "old timers" of the area--to be used in interpretive materials and programs for the enjoyment and education of visitors.

Encourage and assist local people, groups and native corporations to perpetuate the cultural heritage of the region.

VISITOR USE AND INTERPRETATION

Study and inventory recreational resources as a basis for providing visitor access and services necessary for visitors to see and experience the unit without adversely impacting its resources.

Encourage and provide information and technical assistance to private enterprise to provide appropriate visitor services, preferably with bases of operation outside the boundaries of the monument and preserve.

Develop appropriate interpretive information and programs describing outstanding resources, opportunities for visitor activities, and weather and other environmental factors influencing visitor use.

COMMERCIAL OPERATIONS

Identify appropriate levels and types of commercial services feasible for providing visitor services and issue permits and commercial use licenses as appropriate to meet the needs of visitors and to perpetuate resources.

APPENDIX C

(copy)

MASTER MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
JUNEAU, ALASKA
AND
THE U.S. NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

This Master Memorandum of Understanding between the State of Alaska, Department of Fish and Game, hereinafter referred to as the Department, and the U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service, hereinafter referred to as the Service, reflects the general policy guidelines within which the two agencies agree to operate.

WHEREAS, the Department, under the Constitution, laws, and regulations of the State of Alaska, is responsible for the management, protection, maintenance, enhancement, rehabilitation, and extension of the fish and wildlife resources of the State on the sustained yield principle, subject to preferences among beneficial uses; and

WHEREAS, the Service, by authority of the Constitution, laws of Congress, executive orders, and regulations of the U.S. Department of the Interior is responsible for the management of Service lands in Alaska and the conservation of resources on these lands, including conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife within National Preserves and natural and healthy populations within National Parks and Monuments; and

WHEREAS, the Department and the Service share a mutual concern for fish and wildlife resources and their habitats and desire to develop and maintain a cooperative relationship which will be in the best interests of both parties, the fish and wildlife resources and their habitats, and produce the greatest public benefit; and

WHEREAS, the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA) and subsequent implementing Federal regulations recognize that the resources and uses of Service lands in Alaska are substantially different than those of similar lands in other states and mandate continued subsistence uses in designated National Parks plus sport hunting and fishing, subsistence, and trapping uses in National Preserves under applicable State and Federal laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the Department and the Service recognize the increasing need to coordinate resource planning and policy development;

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto do hereby agree as follows:

(copy)

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AGREES:

1. To recognize the Service's responsibility to conserve fish and wildlife and their habitat and regulate human use on Service lands in Alaska, in accordance with the National Park Service Organic Act, ANILCA, and other applicable laws.
2. To manage fish and resident wildlife populations in their natural species diversity on Service lands, recognizing that nonconsumptive use and appreciation by the visiting public is a primary consideration.
3. To consult with the Regional Director or his representative in a timely manner and comply with applicable Federal laws and regulations before embarking on management activities on Service lands.
4. To act as the primary agency responsible for management of subsistence uses of fish and wildlife on State and Service lands, pursuant to applicable State and Federal laws.
5. To recognize that National Park areas were established, in part, to "assure continuation of the natural process of biological succession" and "to maintain the environmental integrity of the natural features found in them."

THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE AGREES:

1. To recognize the Department as the agency with the primary responsibility to manage fish and resident wildlife within the State of Alaska.
2. To recognize the right of the Department to enter onto Service lands after timely notification to conduct routine management activities which do not involve construction, disturbance to the land, or alterations of ecosystems.
3. To manage the fish and wildlife habitat on Service lands so as to ensure conservation of fish and wildlife populations and their habitats in their natural diversity.
4. To cooperate with the Department in planning for management activities on Service lands which require permits, environmental assessments, compatibility assessments, or similar regulatory documents by responding to the Department in a timely manner.
5. To consider carefully the impact on the State of Alaska of proposed treaties or international agreements relating to fish and wildlife resources which could diminish the jurisdictional authority of the State, and to consult freely with the State when such treaties or agreements have a significant impact on the State.

(copy)

6. To review Service policies in consultation with the Department to determine if modified or special policies are needed for Alaska.
7. To adopt Park and Preserve management plans whose provisions are in substantial agreement with the Department's fish and wildlife management plans, unless such plans are determined formally to be incompatible with the purposes for which the respective Parks and Preserves were established.
8. To utilize the State's regulatory process to the maximum extent allowed by Federal law in developing new or modifying existing Federal regulations or proposing changes in existing State regulations governing or affecting the taking of fish and wildlife on Service lands in Alaska.
9. To recognize the Department as the primary agency responsible for policy development and management direction relating to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife resources on State and Service lands, pursuant to applicable State and Federal laws.
10. To consult and cooperate with the Department in the design and conduct of Service research or management studies pertaining to fish and wildlife.
11. To consult with the Department prior to entering into any cooperative land management agreements.
12. To allow under special use permit the erection and maintenance of facilities or structures needed to further fish and wildlife management activities of the Department on Service lands, provided their intended use is not in conflict with the purposes for which affected Parks or Preserves were established.

THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME AND THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MUTUALLY AGREE:

1. To coordinate planning for management of fish and wildlife resources on Service lands so that conflicts arising from differing legal mandates, objectives, and policies either do not arise or are minimized.
2. To consult with each other when developing policy, legislation, and regulations which affect the attainment of wildlife resource management goals and objectives of the other agency.
3. To provide to each other upon request fish and wildlife data, information, and recommendations for consideration in the formulation of policies, plans, and management programs regarding fish and wildlife resources on Service lands.

(copy)

4. To recognize that the taking of fish and wildlife by hunting, trapping, or fishing on certain Service lands in Alaska is authorized in accordance with applicable State and Federal law unless State regulations are found to be incompatible with documented Park or Preserve goals, objectives or management plans.
5. To recognize for maintenance, rehabilitation, and enhancement purposes, that under extraordinary circumstances the manipulation of habitat or animal populations may be an important tool of fish and wildlife management to be used cooperatively on Service lands and waters in Alaska by the Service or the Department when judged by the Service, on a case by case basis, to be consistent with applicable law and Park Service policy.
6. That implementation by the Secretary of the Interior of subsistence program recommendations developed by Park and Park Monument Subsistence Resource Commissions pursuant to ANILCA Section 808(b) will take into account existing State regulations and will use the State's regulatory process as the primary means of developing Park subsistence use regulations.
7. To neither make nor sanction any introduction or transplant of any fish or wildlife species on Service lands without first consulting with the other party and complying with applicable Federal and State laws and regulations.
8. To cooperate in the development of fire management plans which may include establishment of priorities for the control of wildfires and use of prescribed fires.
9. To consult on studies for additional wilderness designations and in development of regulations for management of wilderness areas on Service lands.
10. To resolve, at field office levels, all disagreements pertaining to the cooperative work of the two agencies which arise in the field and to refer all matters of disagreement that cannot be resolved at equivalent field levels to the Regional Director and to the Commissioner for resolution before either agency expresses its position in public.
11. To meet annually to discuss matters relating to the management of fish and wildlife resources on, or affected by, Service lands.
12. To develop such supplemental memoranda of understanding between the Commissioner and the Regional Director as may be required to implement the policies contained herein.
13. That the Master Memorandum of Understanding is subject to the availability of appropriated State and Federal funds.

(copy)

14. That this Master Memorandum of Understanding establishes procedural guidelines by which the parties shall cooperate, but does not create legally enforceable obligations or rights.
15. That this Master Memorandum of Understanding shall become effective when signed by the Commissioner of the Alaska Department of Fish and Game and the Alaska Regional Director of the National Park Service and shall continue in force until terminated by either party by providing notice in writing 120 days in advance of the intended date of termination.
16. That amendments to this Master Memorandum of Understanding may be proposed by either party and shall become effective upon approval by both parties.

STATE OF ALASKA

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Department of Fish and Game

National Park Service

By /s/ Ronald O. Skoog

By /s/ John E. Cook

Ronald O. Skoog

John E. Cook

Commissioner

Regional Director, Alaska

Date 14 October 1982

Date October 5, 1982

D: SUMMARY OF PROPOSED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
PROJECTS FROM DRAFT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

<u>General Type</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Priority</u>
Natural Resources	Impact of sporthunting	ANIA N1	1
	Impact of subsistence use	ANIA N2	2
	Evaluation of local weather	ANIA N3	3
	Basic resource inventory (vegetation and wildlife)	ANIA N4	4
Cultural Resources	Characteristics of subsistence use	ANIA C1	1
	Basic resource inventory (archeological/historical)		2

E: SUMMARY OF ACCESS PROVISIONS

<u>Provision</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Changes Proposed in Plan</u>
<p>1. <u>Access to Inholdings</u> (Valid property or occupancy interest including mining claims)</p> <p>Ensures adequate and feasible access (not affirmatively provided without a permit under sections 13.10 through 13.14) that will not cause significant adverse impacts on natural or other values or jeopardize public health and safety; under terms and conditions of permit from superintendent; mine must also have approved plan of operations.</p>	<p>ANILCA 1110 36 CFR 13.15 13.31</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>2. <u>Temporary Access</u> (Applies to state and private land-owners not covered in sections 13.10 through 13.15)</p> <p>Superintendent will permit temporary access across a park area for survey, geophysical, exploratory, or similar temporary activities on nonfederal lands when determined that such access will not result in permanent harm to park area resources.</p>	<p>ANILCA 1111 36 CFR 13.16 13.31</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>3. <u>Transportation and Utility Systems in and Across Conservation System Units</u> Sets procedures for application and approval process; must be compatible with purposes for which the unit was established and no economically feasible and prudent alternative route exists; establishes terms and conditions of rights-of-way.</p>	<p>ANILCA Title XI</p>	<p>None</p>

4.	<u>RS - 2477</u> The National Park Service is aware that the state might assert certain claims of rights-of-way under RS 2477. The Park Service intends to cooperate with the state (and any other claimant) in identifying these claims, the nature, extent, and validity of which may vary depending on the circumstances under which they were acquired or asserted. Notwithstanding that certain RS 2477 rights-of-way may exist, it will still be necessary for users of any right-of-way to comply with applicable NPS permits requirements.	43 USC Alaska Statehood Act	None
5.	<u>Navigation Aids and Other Facilities</u> Access is provided to existing air and water navigation aids, communication sites, and facilities for weather, climate, and fisheries research and monitoring, subject to reasonable regulation. Access is also provided to facilities for national defense purposes.	ANILCA 1310	None
6.	<u>Alaska Department of Fish and Game</u> The National Park Service recognizes the right of the department to enter onto park lands after timely notification to conduct routine management activities that do not involve construction, disturbance to the land, or alterations of ecosystems.	NPS/ADF&G Memorandum of Understanding	None
7.	<u>Alaska Mineral Resource Assessment Program</u> Allows for access for assessment activities permitted by ANILCA 1010, subject to regulations ensuring that such activities are carried out in an environmentally sound manner.	ANILCA 1010	None
8.	<u>General Research</u> The superintendent may permit the use of helicopters for research activities subject to terms and conditions prescribed by the superintendent.	ANILCA 1110 36 CFR 13.13 13.31	None

PART 13—NATIONAL PARK SYSTEM UNITS IN ALASKA

Subpart A—Public Use and Recreation

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- 13.68 Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park.

Sec.

- 13.69 Kobuk Valley National Park.
- 13.70 Lake Clark National Park and Preserve.
- 13.71 Noatak National Preserve.
- 13.72 Sitka National Historical Park.
- 13.73 Wrangell-St. Elias National Park and Preserve.
- 13.74 Yukon-Charley Rivers National Preserve.

Authority: Sec. 3 of the Act of August 15, 1916 (39 Stat. 535, as amended (16 U.S.C. 3); 16 U.S.C. 1, 1a-1, 1c, 462); Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (ANILCA), 94 Stat. 2371 and 1281; Pub. L. No. 96-487 (December 2, 1980); and the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1980, 94 Stat. 2812, Pub. L. No. 96-511.

Subpart A—Public Use and Recreation

§ 13.1 Definitions.

The following definitions shall apply to all regulations contained in this part:

(a) The term "adequate and feasible access" means a reasonable method and route of pedestrian or vehicular transportation which is economically practicable for achieving the use or development desired by the applicant on his/her non-federal land or occupancy interest, but does not necessarily mean the least costly alternative.

(b) The term "aircraft" means a machine or device that is used or intended to be used to carry persons or objects in flight through the air, including, but not limited to airplanes, helicopters and gliders.

(c) The term "ANILCA" means the Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act (94 Stat. 2371; Pub. L. 96-487 (December 2, 1980)).

(d) The term "carry" means to wear, bear or carry on or about the person and additionally, in the case of firearms, within or upon a device or animal used for transportation.

(e) The term "downed aircraft" means an aircraft that as a result of mechanical failure or accident cannot take off.

(f) The term "firearm" means any loaded or unloaded pistol, revolver, rifle, shotgun or other weapon which will or is designated to or may readily be converted to expel a projectile by the action of expanded gases, except that it does not include a pistol or rifle powered by compressed gas. The term "firearm" also includes irritant gas devices.

(g) The term "fish and wildlife" means any member of the animal kingdom,

including without limitation any mammal, fish, bird (including any migratory, nonmigratory or endangered bird for which protection is also afforded by treaty or other international agreement), amphibian, reptile, mollusk, crustacean, arthropod, or other invertebrate, and includes any part, produce, egg, or offspring thereof, or the dead body or part thereof.

(h) The term "fossil" means any remains, impression, or trace of any animal or plant of past geological ages that has been preserved, by natural processes, in the earth's crust.

(i) The term "gemstone" means a silica or igneous mineral including, but not limited to (1) geodes, (2) petrified wood, and (3) jade, agate, opal, garnet, or other mineral that when cut and polished is customarily used as jewelry or other ornament.

(j) The term "National Preserve" shall include the following areas of the National Park System:

Alagnak National Wild and Scenic River, Aniakchak National Preserve, Bering Land Bridge National Preserve, Denali National Preserve, Gates of the Arctic National Preserve, Glacier Bay National Preserve, Katmai National Preserve, Lake Clark National Preserve, Noatak National Preserve, Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve, and Yukon-Charley National Preserve.

(k) The term "net" means a seine, weir, net wire, fish trap, or other implement designed to entrap fish, except a landing net.

(l) The term "off-road vehicle" means any motor vehicle designed for or capable of crosscountry travel on or immediately over land, water, sand, snow, ice, marsh, wetland or other natural terrain, except snowmachines or snowmobiles as defined in this chapter.

(m) The term "park areas" means lands and waters administered by the National Park Service within the State of Alaska.

(n) The term "person" means any individual, firm, corporation, society, association, partnership, or any private or public body.

(o) The term "possession" means exercising dominion or control, with or without ownership, over weapons, traps, nets or other property.

(p) The term "public lands" means lands situated in Alaska which are federally owned lands, except—

(1) land selections of the State of Alaska which have been tentatively approved or validly selected under the Alaska Statehood Act (72 Stat. 339) and lands which have been confirmed to, validly selected by, or granted to the Territory of Alaska or the State under any other provision of Federal law;

(2) land selections of a Native Corporation made under the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (85 Stat. 688) which have not been conveyed to a Native Corporation, unless any such selection is determined to be invalid or is relinquished; and

(3) lands referred to in section 19(b) of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

(q) The term "snowmachine" or "snowmobile" means a self-propelled vehicle intended for off-road travel primarily on snow having a curb weight of not more than 1,000 pounds (450 kg), driven by a track or tracks in contact with the snow and steered by a ski or skis on contact with the snow.

(r) The term "Superintendent" means any National Park Service official in charge of a park area, the Alaska Regional Director of the National Park Service, or an authorized representative of either.

(s) The term "take" or "taking" as used with respect to fish and wildlife, means to pursue, hunt, shoot, trap, net, capture, collect, kill, harm, or attempt to engage in any such conduct.

(t) The term "temporary" means a continuous period of time not to exceed 12 months, except as specifically provided otherwise.

(u) The term "trap" means a snare, trap, mesh, or other implement designed to entrap animals other than fish.

(v) The term "unload" means there is no unexpended shell or cartridge in the chamber or magazine of a firearm; bows, crossbows and spearguns are stored in such a manner as to prevent their ready use; muzzle-loading weapons do not contain a powder charge; and any other implement capable of discharging a missile into the air or under the water does not contain a missile or similar device within the loading or discharging mechanism.

(w) The term "weapon" means a firearm, compressed gas or spring powered pistol or rifle, bow and arrow, crossbow, blow gun, speargun, hand thrown spear, slingshot, explosive device, or any other implement designed to discharge missiles into the air or under the water.

§ 13.2 Applicability and scope.

(a) The regulations contained in this Part 13 are prescribed for the proper use and management of park areas in Alaska and supplement the general regulations contained in this chapter are applicable except as modified by this Part 13.

(b) Subpart A of this Part 13 contains regulations applicable to park areas. Such regulations amend in part the

general regulations contained in this chapter. The regulations in Subpart A govern use and management, including subsistence activities, within the park areas, except as modified by Subparts B or C.

(c) Subpart B of this Part 13 contains regulations applicable to subsistence activities. Such regulations apply to park areas except Kenai Fjords National Park, Katmai National Park, Glacier Bay National Park, Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Sitka National Historical Park, and parts of Denali National Park. The regulations in Subpart B amend in part the general regulations contained in this chapter and the regulations contained in Subpart A of this Part 13.

(d) Subpart C of this Part 13 contains special regulations for specific park areas. Such regulations amend in part the general regulations contained in this chapter and the regulations contained in Subparts A and B of this Part 13.

(e) The regulations contained in this Part 13 are applicable only on federally owned lands within the boundaries of any park area. For purposes of this part, "federally owned lands" means land interests held or retained by the United States, but does not include those land interests: (1) Tentatively approved, legislatively conveyed, or patented to the State of Alaska; or (2) interim conveyed or patented to a Native Corporation or person.

§ 13.3 Penalties.

Any person convicted of violating any provision of the regulations contained in this Part 13, or as the same may be amended or supplemented, may be punished by a fine not exceeding \$500 or by imprisonment not exceeding 6 months, or both, and may be adjudged to pay all costs of the proceedings (16 U.S.C. 3).

§ 13.4 Information collection.

The information collection requirements contained in §§ 13.13, 13.14, 13.15, 13.16, 13.17, 13.31, 13.44, 13.45, 13.49, and 13.51 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3507 and assigned clearance number 1024-0015. The information is being collected to solicit information necessary for the Superintendent to issue permits and other benefits. This information will be used to grant statutory or administrative benefits. In all sections except 13.13, the obligation to respond is required to obtain a benefit. In § 13.13, the obligation to respond is mandatory.

§ 13.10 Snowmachines.

(a) The use of snowmachines (during periods of adequate snow cover or frozen river conditions) for traditional activities (where such activities are permitted by ANILCA or other law) and for travel to and from villages and homesites, is permitted within park areas, except where such use is prohibited or otherwise restricted by the Superintendent in accordance with the provisions of § 13.30. Nothing in this section affects the use of snowmobiles by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses as authorized by § 13.46.

(b) For the purposes of this section "adequate snow cover" shall mean snow of sufficient depth to protect the underlying vegetation and soil.

§ 13.11 Motorboats.

Motorboats may be operated on all park area waters, except where such use is prohibited or otherwise restricted by the Superintendent in accordance with the provisions of § 13.30, or § 7.23(b)-(f) of this chapter. Nothing in this section affects the use of motorboats by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses as authorized by § 13.46.

§ 13.12 Nonmotorized surface transportation.

The use of nonmotorized surface transportation such as domestic dogs, horses and other pack or saddle animals is permitted in park areas except where such use is prohibited or otherwise restricted by the Superintendent in accordance with the provisions of § 13.30. Nothing in this section affects the use of nonmotorized surface transportation by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses as authorized by § 13.46.

§ 13.13 Aircraft.

(a) Fixed-wing aircraft may be landed and operated on lands and waters within park areas, except where such use is prohibited or otherwise restricted by the Superintendent in accordance with this section. The use of aircraft for access to or from lands and waters within a national park or monument for purposes of taking fish and wildlife for subsistence uses therein is prohibited as set forth in § 13.45.

(b) In imposing any prohibitions or restrictions on fixed-wing aircraft use the Superintendent shall: (1) Comply with the procedures set forth in § 13.30; (2) publish notice of prohibitions or restrictions as "Notices to Airmen" issued by the Department of Transportation; and (3) publish permanent prohibitions or restrictions as a regulatory notice in the United States

Government Flight Information Service "Supplement Alaska."

(c) Except as provided in paragraph (d) of this section, the owners of any aircraft downed after December 2, 1980, shall remove the aircraft and all component parts thereof in accordance with procedures established by the Superintendent. In establishing a removal procedure, the Superintendent is authorized to: (1) Establish a reasonable date by which aircraft removal operations must be complete; and (2) determine times and means of access to and from the downed aircraft.

(d) The Superintendent may waive the requirements of § 13.12(c) upon a determination that: (1) The removal of downed aircraft would constitute an unacceptable risk to human life; or (2) the removal of a downed aircraft would result in extensive resource damage; or (3) the removal of a downed aircraft is otherwise impracticable or impossible.

(e) Salvaging, removing, possessing, or attempting to salvage, remove or possess any downed aircraft or component parts thereof is prohibited, except in accordance with a removal procedure established under paragraph (c) of this section. *Provided, however,* That the owner or an authorized representative thereof may remove valuable component parts from a downed aircraft at the time of rescue without a permit.

(f) The use of a helicopter in any park area, other than at designated landing areas (see Subpart C regulations for each park area) pursuant to the terms and conditions of a permit issued by the Superintendent, is prohibited.

§ 13.14 Off-road vehicles.

(a) The use of off-road vehicles in locations other than established roads and parking areas is prohibited, except on routes or in areas designated by the Superintendent or pursuant to a valid permit as prescribed in paragraph (c) of this section or in § 13.15 or § 13.16. Such designations shall be made in accordance with procedures in this section. Nothing in this section affects the use of off-road vehicles by local rural residents engaged in subsistence as authorized by § 13.46.

(b)(1) The Superintendent's determination of whether to designate a route or area for off-road vehicle use shall be governed by Executive Order 11644, as amended.

(2) Route or area designations shall be published in the "Federal Register."

(3) Notice of routes or areas on which off-road travel is permitted shall be in accordance with the provisions of § 13.30(f).

(4) The closure or restrictions on use of designated routes or areas to off-road vehicles use shall be in accordance with the provisions of § 13.30.

(c) The Superintendent is authorized to issue permits for the use of off-road vehicles on existing off-road vehicle trails located in park areas (other than areas designated as part of the National Wilderness Preservation System) upon a finding that such off-road vehicle use would be compatible with park purposes and values. The Superintendent shall include in any permit such stipulations and conditions as are necessary for the protection of park purposes and values.

§ 13.15 Access to inholdings.

(a) *Purpose.* A permit for access to inholdings pursuant to this section is required only where adequate and feasible access is not affirmatively provided without a permit under §§ 13.10-13.14 of these regulations. Thus, it is the purpose of this section to ensure adequate and feasible access across a park area for any person who has a valid property or occupancy interest in lands within or effectively surrounded by a park area or other lands listed in section 1110(b) of ANILCA.

(b) *Application and Administration.* (1) Applications for a permit designating methods and routes of access across park areas not affirmatively provided for in this part shall be submitted to the Superintendent having jurisdiction over the affected park area as specified under § 13.31.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (c) of this section, the access permit application shall contain the name and address of the applicant, documentation of the relevant property or occupancy interest held by the applicant (including for 1872 Mining Law claimants a copy of the location notice and recordings required under the 1872 Mining Law and 43 U.S.C. 1744), a map or physical description of the relevant property or occupancy interest, a map or physical description of the desired route of access, a description of the desired method of access, and any other information necessary to determine the adequacy and feasibility of the route or method of access and its impact on the natural or other values of the park area.

(3) The Superintendent shall specify in a nontransferable permit, adequate and feasible routes and methods of access across park areas for any person who meets the criteria of paragraph (a) of this section. The Superintendent shall designate the routes and methods desired by the applicant unless it is determined that:

(i) The route or method of access would cause significant adverse impacts on natural or other values of the park area, and adequate and feasible access otherwise exists; or

(ii) The route or method of access would jeopardize public health and safety, and adequate and feasible access otherwise exists.

(4) If the Superintendent makes one of the findings described in paragraph (b)(3) of this section, he/she shall specify such other alternate methods and routes of access as will provide the applicant adequate and feasible access, while minimizing damage to natural and other values of the park area.

(5) Any person holding an access permit shall notify the Superintendent of any significant change in the method or level of access from that occurring at the time of permit issuance. In such cases, the Superintendent may modify the terms and conditions of the permit, provided that the modified permit also assures adequate and feasible access under the standards of paragraph (b)(3) of this section.

(6) Routes and methods of access permitted pursuant to this section shall be available for use by guests and invitees of the permittee.

(c) *Access requiring permanent improvements.* (1) Application form and procedure. Any application for access to an inholding which proposes the construction or modification of an improved road (e.g., construction or modification of a permanent, year-round nature, and which involves substantial alteration of the terrain or vegetation, such as grading, gravelling of surfaces, concrete bridges, or other such construction or modification), or any other permanent improvement on park area lands qualifying as a "transportation or utility system" under Section 1102 of ANILCA, shall be submitted on the consolidated application form specified in Section 1104(h) of ANILCA, and processed in accordance with the procedures of Title XI of ANILCA.

(2) Decision-making standard. (i) If the permanent improvement is required for adequate and feasible access to the inholding (e.g., improved right-of-way or landing strip), the permit granting standards of paragraph (b) of this section shall apply.

(ii) If the permanent improvement is not required as part of the applicant's right to adequate and feasible access to an inholding (e.g., pipeline, transmission line), the permit granting standards of Sections 1104-1107 of ANILCA shall apply.

(d) *Clarification of the Applicability of 36 CFR Part 9.* (1) 1872 Mining Law

Claims and 36 CFR Subpart 9A. Since section 1110(b) of ANILCA guarantees adequate and feasible access to valid mining claims within park areas notwithstanding any other law, and since the 36 CFR 9.3 requirement for an approved plan of operations prior to the issuance of an access permit may interfere with needed access, 36 CFR 9.3 is no longer applicable in Alaska park areas. However, holders of patented or unpatented mining claims under the 1872 Mining Law (30 U.S.C. 22 *et seq.*) should be aware that 36 CFR 9.9, 9.10 independently require an approved plan of operations prior to conducting mining operations within a park area (except that no plan of operations is required for patented claims where access is not across federally-owned parklands).

(2) Non-Federal Oil and Gas Rights and 36 CFR Subpart 9B. Since section 1110(b) of ANILCA guarantees adequate and feasible access to park area inholdings notwithstanding any other law, and since 36 CFR Subpart 9B was predicated on the park area Superintendent's discretion to restrict and condition such access, 36 CFR Subpart 9B is no longer applicable in Alaska park areas.

§ 13.16 Temporary access.

(a) *Applicability.* This section is applicable to State and private landowners who desire temporary access across a park area for the purposes of survey, geophysical, exploratory and other temporary uses of such nonfederal lands, and where such temporary access is not affirmatively provided for in §§ 13.10-13.15. State and private landowners meeting the criteria of § 13.15(a) are directed to utilize the procedures of § 13.15 to obtain temporary access.

(b) *Application.* A landowner requiring temporary access across a park area for survey, geophysical, exploratory or similar temporary activities shall apply to the Superintendent for an access permit and shall provide the relevant information described in section 13.15(b)(2), concerning the proposed access.

(c) *Permit standards, stipulations and conditions.* The Superintendent shall grant the desired temporary access whenever he/she determines that such access will not result in permanent harm to park area resources. The Superintendent shall include in any permit granted such stipulations and conditions on temporary access as are necessary to ensure that the access granted would not be inconsistent with the purposes for which the park area was reserved and to ensure that no

permanent harm will result to park area resources.

(d) *Definition.* For the purposes of this section, "temporary access" shall mean limited, short-term (i.e., up to one year from issuance of the permit) access, which does not require permanent facilities for access, to undeveloped State or private lands

§ 13.17 Cabins and other structures.

(a) *Purpose.* It is the purpose of this section to provide procedures and guidance for those occupying and using existing cabins and those wishing to construct new cabins within park areas.

(b) *Existing cabins or other structures.* (1) This subsection applies to all park areas in Alaska except Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Sitka National Historical Park and the former Mt. McKinley National Park, Glacier Bay National Monument and Katmai National Monument.

(2) Cabins or other structures existing prior to December 18, 1973, may be occupied and used by the claimants to these structures pursuant to a nontransferable, renewable permit. This use and occupancy shall be for terms of five years. *Provided, however,* That the claimant to the structure, by application:

(i) Reasonably demonstrates by affidavit, bill of sale or other documentation proof of possessory interest or right of occupancy in the cabin or structure;

(ii) Submits an acceptable photograph or sketch which accurately depicts the cabin or structure and a map showing its geographic location;

(iii) Agrees to vacate and remove all personal property from the cabin or structure upon expiration of the permit;

(iv) Acknowledges in the permit that he/she has no interest in the real property on which the cabin or structure is located; and

(v) Submits a listing of the names of all immediate family members residing in the cabin or structure.

Permits issued under the provisions of this paragraph shall be renewed every five years until the death of the last immediate family member of the claimant residing in the cabin or structure under permit. Renewal will occur unless the Superintendent determines after notice and hearing, and on the basis of substantial evidence in the administrative record as a whole, that the use under the permit is causing or may cause significant detriment to the principal purposes for which the park area was established. The Superintendent's decision may be appealed pursuant to the provisions of 43 CFR 4.700.

(3) Cabins or other structures, the occupancy or use of which began between December 18, 1973, and December 1, 1978, may be used and occupied by the claimant to these structures pursuant to a nontransferable, nonrenewable permit. This use and occupancy shall be for a maximum term of 1 year: *Provided, however*, That the claimant, by application, complies with § 13.17(c)(1) (i) through (iv) above. Permits issued under the provisions of this paragraph may be extended by the Superintendent, subject to reasonable regulations, for a period not to exceed one year for such reasons as the Superintendent deems equitable and just.

(4) Cabins or other structures, construction of which began after December 1, 1978, shall not be available for use and occupancy, unless authorized under the provisions of paragraph (d) of this section.

(5) Cabins or other structures, not under permit, shall be used only for official government business: *Provided, however*, That during emergencies involving the safety of human life, or where designated for public use by the Superintendent through the posting of signs, these cabins may be used by the general public.

(c) *New Cabins or Other Structures Necessary for Subsistence Uses or Otherwise Authorized by Law.* The Superintendent may issue a permit under such conditions as he/she may prescribe for the construction, reconstruction, temporary use, occupancy, and maintenance of new cabins or other structures when he/she determines that the use is necessary to accommodate reasonably subsistence uses or is otherwise authorized by law. In determining whether to permit the use, occupancy, construction, reconstruction or maintenance of cabins or other structures, the Superintendent shall be guided by factors such as other public uses, public health and safety, environmental and resource protection, research activities, protection of cultural or scientific values, subsistence uses, endangered or threatened species conservation and other management considerations necessary to ensure that the activities authorized pursuant to this section are compatible with the purposes for which the park area was established.

(d) *Existing Cabin Leases or Permits.* Nothing in this section shall preclude the renewal or continuation of valid leases or permits in effect as of December 2, 1980, for cabins, homesites, or similar structures on federally owned lands. Unless the Superintendent issues specific findings, following notice and

an opportunity for the leaseholder or permittee to respond, that renewal or continuation of such valid permit or lease constitutes a direct threat or a significant impairment to the purposes for which the park area was established, he/she shall renew such valid leases or permits upon their expiration in accordance with the provisions of the original lease or permit subject to such reasonable regulations as he/she prescribe in keeping with the management objectives of the park area. Subject to the provisions of the original lease or permit, nothing in this paragraph shall necessarily preclude the Superintendent from transferring such a lease or permit to another person at the election or death of the original permittee or leasee.

§ 13.18 Camping and picnicking.

(a) *Camping.* Camping is permitted in park areas except where such use is prohibited or otherwise restricted by the Superintendent in accordance with the provisions of § 13.30, or as set forth for specific park areas in Subpart C of this part.

(b) *Picnicking.* Picnicking is permitted in park areas except where such activity is prohibited by the posting of appropriate signs.

§ 13.19 Weapons, traps and nets.

(a) This section applies to all park areas in Alaska except Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Sitka National Historical Park and the former Mt. McKinley National Park, Glacier Bay National Monument and Katmai National Monument.

(b) Firearms may be carried within park areas in accordance with applicable Federal and State laws, except where such carrying is prohibited or otherwise restricted pursuant to § 13.30.

(c) Traps, bows and other implements authorized by State and Federal law for the taking of fish and wildlife may be carried within National Preserves only during those times when the taking of fish and wildlife is authorized by applicable law or regulation.

(d) In addition to the authorities provided in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, weapons (other than firearms) traps and nets may be possessed within park areas provided such weapons, traps or nets are within or upon a device or animal used for transportation and are unloaded and cased or otherwise packed in such a manner as to prevent their ready use while in a park area.

(e) Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, local rural residents who are authorized to engage in subsistence

uses, including the taking of wildlife pursuant to § 13.48, may use, possess, or carry traps, nets and other weapons in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws.

§ 13.20 Preservation of natural features.

(a) This section applies to all park areas in Alaska except Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, Sitka National Historical Park, the former Mt. McKinley National Park, Glacier Bay National Monument, and Katmai National Monument.

(b) *Renewable Resources.* The gathering or collecting, by hand and for personal use only, of the following renewable resources is permitted:

(1) Natural plant food items, including fruits, berries and mushrooms, but not including threatened or endangered species;

(2) Driftwood and uninhabited seashells;

(3) Such plant materials and minerals as are essential to the conduct of traditional ceremonies by Native Americans; and

(4) Dead or downed wood for use in fires within park areas.

(c) *Rocks and Minerals.* Surface collection, by hand (including hand-held gold pans) and for personal recreational use only, of rocks and minerals is permitted: *Provided, however*, That (1) collection of silver, platinum, gemstones and fossils is prohibited, and (2) collection methods which may result in disturbance of the ground surface, such as the use of shovels, pickaxes, sluice boxes, and dredges, are prohibited.

(d) *Closure and Notice.* Under conditions where it is found that significant adverse impact on park resources, wildlife populations, subsistence uses, or visitor enjoyment of resources will result, the Superintendent shall prohibit the gathering or otherwise restrict the collecting of these items. Portions of a park area in which closures or restrictions apply shall be (1) published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the State and designated on a map which shall be available for public inspection in the office of the Superintendent, or (2) designated by the posting of appropriate signs, or (3) both.

(e) *Subsistence.* Nothing in this section shall apply to local rural residents authorized to take renewable resources.

§ 13.21 Taking of fish and wildlife.

(a) *Subsistence.* Nothing in this section shall apply to the taking of fish and wildlife for subsistence uses.

(b) *Fishing.* Fishing is permitted in all park areas in accordance with applicable State and Federal law, and such laws are hereby adopted and made a part of these regulations to the extent they are not inconsistent with § 2.13 of this chapter. With respect to the Cape Krusenstern National Monument, the Malaspina Glacier Forelands area of the Wrangell-St. Elias National Preserve, and the Dry Bay area of Glacier Bay National Preserve, the exercise of valid commercial fishing rights or privileges obtained pursuant to existing law—including any use of park area lands for campsites, cabins, motorized vehicles, and aircraft landings on existing airstrips which is directly incident to the exercise of such rights or privileges—may continue: *Provided, however,* That the Superintendent may restrict the use of park area lands directly incident to the exercise of these rights or privileges if he/she determines, after conducting a public hearing in the affected locality, that such use of park area lands constitutes a significant expansion of the use of park area lands beyond the level of such use during 1979.

(c) *Hunting and Trapping.* Hunting and trapping are permitted in all National Preserves in accordance with applicable State and Federal law, and such laws are hereby adopted and made a part of these regulations: *Provided, however,* That engaging in trapping activities, as the employee of another person is prohibited.

(d) *Closures and Restrictions.* The Superintendent may prohibit or restrict the taking of fish or wildlife in accordance with the provisions of § 13.30. Except in emergency conditions, such restrictions shall take effect only after consultation with the appropriate State agency having responsibility over fishing, hunting, or trapping and representatives of affected users.

§ 13.22 Unattended or abandoned property.

(a) This section applies to all park areas in Alaska except Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park and Sitka National Historical Park, or as further restricted for specific park areas in Subpart C of this part.

(b) Leaving any snowmachine, vessel, off-road vehicle or other personal property unattended for longer than 12 months without prior permission of the Superintendent is prohibited, and any property so left may be impounded by the Superintendent.

(c) The Superintendent may (1) designate areas where personal property may not be left unattended for any time period, (2) establish limits on the amount, and type of personal property

that may be left unattended, (3) prescribe the manner in which personal property may be left unattended, or (4) establish limits on the length of time personal property may be left unattended. Such designations and restrictions shall be (i) published in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the State, posted at community post offices within the vicinity affected, made available for broadcast on local radio stations in a manner reasonably calculated to inform residents in the affected community, and designated on a map which shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Superintendent, or (ii) designated by the posting of appropriate signs or (iii) both.

(d) In the event unattended property interferes with the safe and orderly management of a park area or is causing damage to the resources of the area, it may be impounded by the Superintendent at any time.

§ 13.30 Closure procedures.

(a) *Authority.* The Superintendent may close an area or restrict an activity on an emergency, temporary, or permanent basis.

(b) *Criteria.* In determining whether to close an area or restrict an activity on an emergency basis, the Superintendent shall be guided by factors such as public health and safety, resource protection, protection of cultural or scientific values, subsistence uses, endangered or threatened species conservation, and other management considerations necessary to ensure that the activity or area is being managed in a manner compatible with the purposes for which the park area was established.

(c) *Emergency Closures.* (1) Emergency closures or restrictions relating to the use of aircraft, snowmachines, motorboats, or nonmotorized surface transportation shall be made after notice and hearing; (2) emergency closures or restrictions relating to the taking of fish and wildlife shall be accompanied by notice and hearing; (3) other emergency closures shall become effective upon notice as prescribed in § 13.30(f); and (4) no emergency closure or restriction shall extend for a period exceeding 30 days, nor may it be extended.

(d) *Temporary closures or restrictions.* (1) Temporary closures or restrictions relating to the use of aircraft, snowmachines, motorboats, or nonmotorized surface transportation or to the taking of fish and wildlife, shall not be effective prior to notice and hearing in the vicinity of the area(s) directly affected by such closures or restrictions, and other locations as

appropriate; (2) other temporary closures shall be effective upon notice as prescribed in § 13.30(f); (3) temporary closures or restrictions shall not extend for a period exceeding 12 months and may not be extended.

(e) *Permanent closures or restrictions.* Permanent closures or restrictions shall be published as rulemaking in the **Federal Register** with a minimum public comment period of 60 days and shall be accompanied by public hearings in the area affected and other locations as appropriate.

(f) *Notice.* Emergency, temporary and permanent closures or restrictions shall be (1) published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the State and in at least one local newspaper if available, posted at community post offices within the vicinity affected, made available for broadcast on local radio stations in a manner reasonably calculated to inform residents in the affected vicinity, and designated on a map which shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Superintendent and other places convenient to the public; or (2) designated by the posting of appropriate signs; or (3) both.

(g) *Openings.* In determining whether to open an area to public use or activity otherwise prohibited, the Superintendent shall provide notice in the **Federal Register** and shall, upon request, hold a hearing in the affected vicinity and other locations as appropriate prior to making a final determination.

(h) Except as otherwise specifically permitted under the provisions of this part, entry into closed areas or failure to abide by restrictions established under this section is prohibited.

§ 13.31 Permits.

(a) *Application.* (1) Application for a permit required by any section of this part shall be submitted to the Superintendent having jurisdiction over the affected park area, or in the absence of the Superintendent, the Regional Director. If the applicant is unable or does not wish to submit the application in written form, the Superintendent shall provide the applicant an opportunity to present the application orally and shall keep a record of such oral application.

(2) The Superintendent shall grant or deny the application in writing within 45 days. If this deadline cannot be met for good cause, the Superintendent shall so notify the applicant in writing. If the permit application is denied, the Superintendent shall specify in writing the reasons for the denial.

(b) *Denial and appeal procedures.* (1) An applicant whose application for a permit, required pursuant to this part, has been denied by the Superintendent has the right to have the application reconsidered by the Regional Director by contacting him/her within 180 days of the issuance of the denial. For purposes of reconsideration, the permit applicant shall present the following information:

(i) Any statement or documentation, in addition to that included in the initial application, which demonstrates that the applicant satisfies the criteria set forth in the section under which the permit application is made.

(ii) The basis for the permit applicant's disagreement with the Superintendent's findings and conclusions; and

(iii) Whether or not the permit applicant requests an informal hearing before the Regional Director.

(2) The Regional Director shall provide a hearing if requested by the applicant. After consideration of the written materials and oral hearing, if any, and within a reasonable period of time, the Regional Director shall affirm, reverse, or modify the denial of the Superintendent and shall set forth in writing the basis for the decision. A copy of the decision shall be forwarded promptly to the applicant and shall constitute final agency action.

Subpart B—Subsistence

§ 13.40 Purpose and policy.

(a) Consistent with the management of fish and wildlife in accordance with recognized scientific principles and the purposes for which each park area was established, designated, or expanded by ANILCA, the purpose of this subpart is to provide the opportunity for local rural residents engaged in a subsistence way of life to do so pursuant to applicable State and Federal law.

(b) Consistent with sound management principles, and the conservation of healthy populations of fish and wildlife, the utilization of park areas is to cause the least adverse impact possible on local rural residents who depend upon subsistence uses of the resources of the public lands in Alaska.

(c) Nonwasteful subsistence uses of fish, wildlife and other renewable resources by local rural residents shall be the priority consumptive uses of such resources over any other consumptive uses permitted within park areas pursuant to applicable State and Federal law.

(d) Whenever it is necessary to restrict the taking of a fish or wildlife

population within a park area for subsistence uses in order to assure the continued viability of such population or to continue subsistence uses of such population, the population shall be allocated among local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses in accordance with a subsistence priority system based on the following criteria:

(1) Customary and direct dependence upon the resource as the mainstay of one's livelihood;

(2) Local residency; and

(3) Availability of alternative resources.

(e) The State of Alaska is authorized to regulate the taking of fish and wildlife for subsistence uses within park areas to the extent such regulation is consistent with applicable Federal law, including but not limited to ANILCA.

(f) Nothing in this subpart shall be construed as permitting a level of subsistence use of fish and wildlife within park areas to be inconsistent with the conservation of healthy populations, and within a national park or monument to be inconsistent with the conservation of natural and healthy populations, of fish and wildlife.

§ 13.41 Applicability.

Subsistence uses by local rural residents are allowed pursuant to the regulations of this Subpart in the following park areas:

(a) In national preserves;

(b) In Cape Krusenstern National Monument and Kobuk Valley National Park;

(c) Where such uses are traditional (as may be further designated for each park or monument in Subpart C of this part) in Aniakchak National Monument, Gates of the Arctic National Park, Lake Clark National Park, Wrangeli-St. Elias National Park, and the Denali National Park addition.

§ 13.42 Definitions.

(a) *Local rural resident.* (1) As used in this part with respect to national parks and monuments, the term "local rural resident" shall mean either of the following:

(i) Any person who has his/her primary, permanent home within the resident zone as defined by this section, and whenever absent from this primary, permanent home, has the intention of returning to it. Factors demonstrating the location of a person's primary, permanent home may include, but are not limited to, the permanent address indicated on licenses issued by the State of Alaska Department of Fish and Game, driver's license, and tax returns, and the location of registration to vote.

(ii) Any person authorized to engage in subsistence uses in a national park or monument by a subsistence permit issued pursuant to § 13.44.

(b) *Resident zone.* As used in this part, the term "resident zone" shall mean the area within, and the communities and areas near, a national park or monument in which persons who have customarily and traditionally engaged in subsistence uses within the national park or monument permanently reside. The communities and areas near a national park or monument included as a part of its resident zone shall be determined pursuant to § 13.43 and listed for each national park or monument in Subpart C of this part.

(c) *Subsistence uses.* As used in this part, the term "subsistence uses" shall mean the customary and traditional uses by rural Alaska residents of wild, renewable resources for direct personal or family consumption as food, shelter, fuel, clothing, tools or transportation; for the making and selling of handicraft articles out of nonedible byproducts of fish and wildlife resources taken for personal or family consumption; for barter or sharing for personal or family consumption; and for customary trade. For the purposes of this paragraph, the term—

(1) "Family" shall mean all persons related by blood, marriage, or adoption, or any person living within the household on a permanent basis; and

(2) "Barter" shall mean the exchange of fish or wildlife or their parts taken for subsistence uses—

(i) For other fish or game or their parts; or

(ii) For other food or for nonedible items other than money if the exchange is of a limited and noncommercial nature; and

(3) "Customary trade" shall be limited to the exchange of furs for cash (and such other activities as may be designated for a specific park area in Subpart C of this part).

§ 13.43 Determination of resident zones.

(a) A resident zone shall include—

(1) the area within a national park or monument, and

(2) the communities and areas near a national park or monument which contain significant concentrations of rural residents who, without using aircraft as a means of access for purposes of taking fish or wildlife for subsistence uses (except in extraordinary cases where no reasonable alternative existed), have customarily and traditionally engaged in subsistence uses within a national park or monument. For purposes of

determining "significant" concentrations, family members shall also be included.

(b) After notice and comment, including public hearing in the affected local vicinity, a community or area near a national park or monument may be—

(1) Added to a resident zone, or

(2) Deleted from a resident zone, when such community or area does or does not meet the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of this section, as appropriate.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "family" shall mean all persons living within a rural resident's household on a permanent basis.

§ 13.44 Subsistence permits for persons whose primary, permanent home is outside a resident zone.

(a) Any rural resident whose primary, permanent home is outside the boundaries of a resident zone of a national park or monument may apply to the appropriate Superintendent pursuant to the procedures set forth in § 13.51 for a subsistence permit authorizing the permit applicant to engage in subsistence uses within the national park or monument. The Superintendent shall grant the permit if the permit applicant demonstrates that:

(1) Without using aircraft as a means of access for purposes of taking fish and wildlife for subsistence uses, the applicant has (or is a member of a family which has) customarily and traditionally engaged in subsistence uses within a national park or monument; or

(2) The applicant is a local rural resident within a resident zone for another national park or monument, or meets the requirements of paragraph (1) of this section for another national park or monument, and there exists a pattern of subsistence uses (without use of an aircraft as a means of access for purposes of taking fish and wildlife for subsistence uses) between the national park or monument previously utilized by the permit applicant and the national park or monument for which the permit applicant seeks a subsistence permit.

(b) In order to provide for subsistence uses pending application for and receipt of a subsistence permit, until August 1, 1981, any rural resident whose primary permanent home is outside the boundaries of a resident zone of a national park or monument and who meets the criteria for a subsistence permit set forth in paragraph (a) of this section may engage in subsistence uses in the national park or monument without a permit in accordance with applicable State and Federal law. Effective August 1, 1981, however, such

rural resident must have a subsistence permit as required by paragraph (a) of this section in order to engage in subsistence uses in the national park or monument.

(c) For purposes of this section, the term "family" shall mean all persons living within a rural resident's household on a permanent basis.

§ 13.45 Prohibition of aircraft use.

(a) Notwithstanding the provisions of § 13.12 the use of aircraft for access to or from lands and waters within a national park or monument for purposes of taking fish or wildlife for subsistence uses within the national park or monument is prohibited except as provided in this section.

(b) *Exceptions.* (1) In extraordinary cases where no reasonable alternative exists, the Superintendent shall permit, pursuant to specified terms and conditions, a local rural resident of an "exempted community" to use aircraft for access to or from lands and water within a national park or monument for purposes of taking fish or wildlife for subsistence uses.

(i) A community shall qualify as an "exempted community" if, because of the location of the subsistence resources upon which it depends and the extraordinary difficulty of surface access to these subsistence resources, the local rural residents who permanently reside in the community have no reasonable alternative to aircraft use for access to these subsistence resources.

(ii) A community which is determined, after notice and comment (including public hearing in the affected local vicinity), to meet the description of an "exempted community" set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section shall be included in the appropriate special regulations for each park and monument set forth in Subpart C of this part.

(iii) A community included as an "exempted community" in Subpart C of this part may be deleted therefrom upon a determination, after notice and comment (including public hearing in the affected local vicinity), that it does not meet the description of an "exempted community" set forth in paragraph (b)(1) of this section.

(2) Any local rural resident aggrieved by the prohibition on aircraft use set forth in this section may apply for an exception to the prohibition pursuant to the procedures set forth in § 13.51. In extraordinary cases where no reasonable alternative exists, the Superintendent may grant the exception upon a determination that the location of the subsistence resources depended upon and the difficulty of surface access

to these resources, or other emergency situation, requires such relief.

(c) Nothing in this section shall prohibit the use of aircraft for access to lands and waters within a national park or monument for purposes of engaging in any activity allowed by law other than the taking of fish and wildlife. Such activities include, but are not limited to, transporting supplies.

§ 13.46 Use of snowmobiles, motorboats, dog teams, and other means of surface transportation traditionally employed by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the use of snowmobiles, motorboats, dog teams, and other means of surface transportation traditionally employed by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses is permitted within park areas except at those times and in those areas restricted or closed by the Superintendent.

(b) The Superintendent may restrict or close a route or area to use of snowmobiles, motorboats, dog teams, or other means of surface transportation traditionally employed by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses if the Superintendent determines that such use is causing or is likely to cause an adverse impact on public health and safety, resource protection, protection of historic or scientific values, subsistence uses, conservation of endangered or threatened species, or the purposes for which the park area was established.

(c) No restrictions or closures shall be imposed without notice and a public hearing in the affected vicinity and other locations as appropriate. In the case of emergency situations, restrictions or closures shall not exceed sixty (60) days and shall not be extended unless the Superintendent establishes, after notice and public hearing in the affected vicinity and other locations as appropriate, that such extension is justified according to the factors set forth in paragraph (b) of this section. Notice of the proposed or emergency restrictions or closures and the reasons therefor shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the State and in at least one local newspaper if appropriate, and information about such proposed or emergency actions shall also be made available for broadcast on local radio stations in a manner reasonably calculated to inform local rural residents in the affected vicinity. All restrictions and closures shall be designated on a map which shall be available for public inspection at the office of the

Superintendent of the affected park area and the post office or postal authority of every affected community within or near the park area, or by the posting of signs in the vicinity of the restrictions or closures, or both.

(d) Motorboats, snowmobiles, dog teams, and other means of surface transportation traditionally employed by local rural residents engaged in subsistence uses shall be operated (1) in compliance with applicable State and Federal law, (2) in such a manner as to prevent waste or damage to the park areas, and (3) in such a manner as to prevent the herding, harassment, hazing or driving of wildlife for hunting or other purposes.

(e) At all times when not engaged in subsistence uses, local rural residents may use snowmobiles, motorboats, dog teams, and other means of surface transportation in accordance with §§ 13.10, 13.11, 13.12, and 13.14, respectively.

§ 13.47 Subsistence fishing.

Fish may be taken by local rural residents for subsistence uses in park areas where subsistence uses are allowed in compliance with applicable State and Federal law, including the provisions of §§ 2.13 and 13.21 of this chapter: *Provided, however,* That local rural residents in park areas where subsistence uses are allowed may fish with a net, seine, trap, or spear where permitted by State law. To the extent consistent with the provisions of this chapter, applicable State laws and regulations governing the taking of fish which are now or will hereafter be in effect are hereby incorporated by reference as a part of these regulations.

§ 13.48 Subsistence hunting and trapping

Local rural residents may hunt and trap wildlife for subsistence uses in park areas where subsistence uses are allowed in compliance with applicable State and Federal law. To the extent consistent with the provisions of this chapter, applicable State laws and regulations governing the taking of wildlife which are now or will hereafter be in effect are hereby incorporated by reference as a part of these regulations.

§ 13.49 Subsistence use of timber and plant material.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the non-commercial cutting of live standing timber by local rural residents for appropriate subsistence uses, such as firewood or house logs, may be permitted in park areas where subsistence uses are allowed as follows:

(1) For live standing timber of diameter greater than three inches at ground height, the Superintendent may permit cutting in accordance with the specifications of a permit if such cutting is determined to be compatible with the purposes for which the park area was established;

(2) For live standing timber of diameter less than three inches at ground height, cutting is permitted unless restricted by the Superintendent.

(b) The noncommercial gathering by local rural residents of fruits, berries, mushrooms, and other plant materials for subsistence uses, and the noncommercial gathering of dead or downed timber for firewood, shall be allowed without a permit in park areas where subsistence uses are allowed.

(c)(1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the Superintendent, after notice and public hearing in the affected vicinity and other locations as appropriate, may temporarily close all or any portion of a park area to subsistence uses of a particular plant population only if necessary for reasons of public safety, administration, or to assure the continued viability of such population. For the purposes of this section, the term "temporarily" shall mean only so long as reasonably necessary to achieve the purposes of the closure.

(2) If the Superintendent determines that an emergency situation exists and that extraordinary measures must be taken for public safety or to assure the continued viability of a particular plant population, the Superintendent may immediately close all or any portion of a park area to the subsistence uses of such population. Such emergency closure shall be effective when made, shall be for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, and may not subsequently be extended unless the Superintendent establishes, after notice and public hearing in the affected vicinity and other locations as appropriate, that such closure should be extended.

(3) Notice of administrative actions taken pursuant to this section, and the reasons justifying such actions, shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the State and at least one local newspaper if available, and information about such actions and reasons also shall be made available for broadcast on local radio stations in a manner reasonably calculated to inform local rural residents in the affected vicinity. All closures shall be designated on a map which shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Superintendent of the affected park area and the post office or postal authority of every affected

community within or near the park area, or by the posting of signs in the vicinity of the restrictions, or both.

§ 13.50 Closure to subsistence uses of fish and wildlife.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this part, the Superintendent, after consultation with the State and adequate notice and public hearing in the affected vicinity and other locations as appropriate, may temporarily close all or any portion of a park area to subsistence uses of a particular fish or wildlife population only if necessary for reasons of public safety, administration, or to assure the continued viability of such population. For purposes of this section, the term "temporarily" shall mean only so long as reasonably necessary to achieve the purposes of the closure.

(b) If the Superintendent determines that an emergency situation exists and that extraordinary measures must be taken for public safety or to assure the continued viability of a particular fish or wildlife population, the Superintendent may immediately close all or any portion of a park area to the subsistence uses of such population. Such emergency closure shall be effective when made, shall be for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days, and may not subsequently be extended unless the Superintendent establishes, after notice and public hearing in the affected vicinity and other locations as appropriate, that such closure should be extended.

(c) Notice of administrative actions taken pursuant to this section, and the reasons justifying such actions, shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation within the State and in at least one local newspaper if available, and information about such actions and reasons also shall be made available for broadcast on local radio stations in a manner reasonably calculated to inform local rural residents in the affected vicinity. All closures shall be designated on a map which shall be available for public inspection at the office of the Superintendent of the affected park area and the post office or postal authority of every affected community within or near the park area, or by the posting of signs in the vicinity of the restrictions, or both.

§ 13.51 Application procedures for subsistence permits and aircraft exceptions.

(a) Any person applying for the subsistence permit required by § 13.44(a), or the exception to the prohibition on aircraft use provided by

§ 13.45(b)(2), shall submit his/her application to the Superintendent of the appropriate national park or monument. If the applicant is unable or does not wish to submit the application in written form, the Superintendent shall provide the applicant an opportunity to present the application orally and shall keep a record of such oral application. Each application must include (1) a statement which acknowledges that providing false information in support of the application is a violation of Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and (2) additional statements or documentation which demonstrates that the applicant satisfies the criteria set forth in § 13.44(a) for a subsistence permit or § 13.45(b)(2) for the aircraft exception, as appropriate. Except in extraordinary cases for good cause shown, the Superintendent shall decide whether to grant or deny the application in a timely manner not to exceed forty-five (45) days following the receipt of the completed application. Should the Superintendent deny the application, he/she shall include in the decision a statement of the reasons for the denial and shall promptly forward a copy to the applicant.

(b) An applicant whose application has been denied by the Superintendent has the right to have his/her application reconsidered by the Alaska Regional Director by contacting the Regional Director within 180 days of the issuance of the denial. The Regional Director may extend the 180-day time limit to initiate a reconsideration for good cause shown by the applicant. For purposes of reconsideration, the applicant shall present the following information:

(1) Any statement or documentation, in addition to that included in the initial application, which demonstrates that the applicant satisfies the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of this section;

(2) The basis for the applicant's disagreement with the Superintendent's findings and conclusions; and

(3) Whether or not the applicant requests an informal hearing before the Regional Director.

(c) The Regional Director shall provide a hearing if requested by the applicant. After consideration of the written materials and oral hearing, if any, and within a reasonable period of time, the Regional Director shall affirm, reverse, or modify the denial of the Superintendent and shall set forth in writing the basis for the decision. A copy of the decision shall be forwarded promptly to the applicant and shall constitute final agency action.

Subpart C—Special Regulations— Specific Park Areas in Alaska

§ 13.60 Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

(a) *Subsistence.*—(1) *Resident Zone.*
The following communities and areas are included within the resident zone for Aniakchak National Monument:

Chignik
Chignik Lagoon
Chignik Lake
Meshik
Port Heiden

G: COST AND IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULE FOR THE PROPOSAL

The costs for combined proposals for visitor services, administrative development, and physical construction following plan approval are given below. These figures are in 1985 dollars. They do not include any costs associated with specific research projects, which will be estimated as the separate resource management plan is refined (see appendix D). Comparative costs for the other alternatives considered are found in table 7 the "Environmental Assessment."

<u>Category</u>	<u>First Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Typical Future Year at Full Development</u>
Staff	\$ 54,000	\$109,000
Operating expenses	<u>49,000</u>	<u>43,000</u>
Total Annual Costs	\$103,000	\$152,000
Construction	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000

Section III—Management

Wild and scenic rivers shall be managed with plans prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Act, other applicable laws, and the following general management principles. Management plans will state: General principles for any land acquisition which may be necessary; the kinds and amounts of public use which the river area can sustain without impact to the values for which it was designated; and specific management measures which will be used to implement the management objectives for each of the various river segments and protect esthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic and scientific features.

If the classification or classifications determined in the management plan differ from those stated in the study report, the management plan will describe the changes in the existing condition of the river area or other considerations which required the change in classification.

General Management Principles

Section 10(a) states,

Each component of the national wild and scenic rivers system shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as is consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its esthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development on the special attributes of the area.

This section is interpreted as stating a nondegradation and enhancement policy for all designated river areas, regardless of classification. Each component will be managed to protect and enhance the values for which the river was designated, while providing for public

recreation and resource uses which do not adversely impact or degrade those values. Specific management strategies will vary according to classification but will always be designed to protect and enhance the values of the river area. Land uses and developments on private lands within the river area which were in existence when the river was designated may be permitted to continue. New land uses must be evaluated for their compatibility with the purposes of the Act.

The management principles which follow stem from section 10(a). Managing agencies will implement these principles to the fullest extent possible under their general statutory authorities and existing Federal, State and local laws. Because of these limitations, however, implementation of the principles may differ among and within components of the system depending on whether the land areas involved are federally, State, locally or privately owned.

Carrying Capacity. Studies will be made during preparation of the management plan and periodically thereafter to determine the quantity and mixture of recreation and other public use which can be permitted without adverse impact on the resource values of the river area. Management of the river area can then be planned accordingly.

Public Use and Access. Public use will be regulated and distributed where necessary to protect and enhance (by allowing natural recovery where resources have been damaged) the resource values of the river area. Public use may be controlled by limiting access to the river, by issuing permits, or by other means available to the managing agency through its general statutory authorities.

Basic Facilities. The managing agency may provide basic facilities to absorb user impacts on the resource. Wild river areas will contain only the basic minimum facilities in keeping with the "essentially primitive" nature of the area. If facilities such as toilets and refuse containers are necessary, they will generally be located at access points or at a sufficient distance from the river bank to minimize their intrusive impact. In scenic and

recreational river areas, simple comfort and convenience facilities such as toilets, shelters, fireplaces, picnic tables and refuse containers are appropriate. These, when placed within the river area, will be judiciously located to protect the values of popular areas from the impacts of public use.

Major Facilities. Major public use facilities such as developed campgrounds, major visitor centers and administrative headquarters will, where feasible, be located outside the river area. If such facilities are necessary to provide for public use and/or to protect the river resource, and location outside the river area is infeasible, such facilities may be located within the river area provided they do not have an adverse effect on the values for which the river area was designated.

Motorized Travel. Motorized travel on land or water is generally permitted in wild, scenic and recreational river areas, but will be restricted or prohibited where necessary to protect the values for which the river area was designated.

Agricultural and Forestry Practices. Agricultural and forestry practices should be similar in nature and intensity to those present in the area at the time of designation. Generally, uses more intensive than grazing and hay production are incompatible with wild river classification. Rowcrop production and timber harvest may be practice in recreational and scenic river areas. Recreational river areas may contain an even larger range of agricultural and forestry uses. Timber harvest in any river area will be conducted so as to avoid adverse impacts on the river area values.

Other Resource Management Practices. Resource management practices will be limited to those which are necessary for protection, conservation, rehabilitation or enhancement of the river area resources. Such features as trail bridges, fences, water bars and drainage ditches, flow measurement devices and other minor structures or management practices are permitted when compatible with the classification of the river area and provided that the area remains natural in appearance and the practices or structures harmonize with the

surrounding environment.

Water Quality. Consistent with the Clean Water Act, water quality in wild, scenic and recreational river areas will be maintained or, where necessary, improved to levels which meet Federal criteria or federally approved State standards for aesthetics and fish and wildlife propagation. River managers will work with local authorities to abate activities within the river area which are degrading or would degrade existing water quality.

Additional management principles stem from other sections of the Act as follows:

Land Acquisition: Section 6

Water Resource Development: Section 7

Mining: Section 9

Management of Adjacent Federal Lands: Section 12(a)

Hunting and Fishing: Section 13(a)

Water Rights: Section 13(b)-(f)

Rights-of-Way: Section 13(g)

The following policies are consistent with and supplement the management principles stated in the Act:

Land Use Controls. Existing patterns of land use and ownership should be maintained, provided they remain consistent with the purposes of the Act. Where land use controls are necessary to protect river area values, the managing agency will utilize a full range of land-use control measures including zoning, easements and fee acquisition.

Rights-of-Way. In the absence of reasonable alternative routes, new public utility rights-of-way on Federal lands affecting a Wild and Scenic River area or study area will be permitted. Where new rights-of-way are unavoidable, locations and construction techniques will be selected to minimize adverse effects on scenic, recreational, fish and wildlife and other values of the river area.

Other legislation applicable to the various managing agencies may also apply to wild and scenic river areas. Where conflicts exist between the provisions of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and other acts applicable to lands within the system, the more restrictive provisions providing for protection of the river values shall apply.

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I: ANILCA SECTION 810 SUBSISTENCE EVALUATION

I. Introduction

Section 810(a) of the ANILCA states the following:

In determining whether to withdraw, reserve, lease, or otherwise permit the use, occupancy, or disposition of public lands under any provision of law authorizing such actions, the head of the Federal agency having primary jurisdiction over such lands or his designee shall evaluate the effect of such use, occupancy, or disposition on subsistence uses and needs, the availability of other lands for the purposes sought to be achieved, and other alternatives which would reduce or eliminate the use, occupancy or disposition of public lands needed for subsistence purposes. No such withdrawal, reservation, lease, permit, or other use, occupancy or disposition of such lands which would significantly restrict subsistence uses shall be effected until the head of such Federal agency -

(1) gives notice to the appropriate State agency and the appropriate local committees and regional councils established pursuant to section 805;

(2) gives notice of, and holds, a hearing in the vicinity of the area involved; and

(3) determines that (A) such a significant restriction of subsistence uses is necessary, consistent with sound management principles for the utilization of the public lands, (B) the proposed activity will involve the minimal amount of public lands necessary to accomplish the purposes of such use, occupancy, or other disposition, and (C) reasonable steps will be taken to minimize adverse impacts upon subsistence uses and resources resulting from such actions.

II. Purpose of the Monument/Preserve

ANILCA section 201(1), which establishes the monument and preserve, also states the following:

The monument and preserve shall be managed for the following purposes, among others: To maintain the caldera and its associated volcanic features and landscape, including the Aniakchak River and other lakes and streams, in their natural state; to study, interpret, and assure continuation of the natural process of biological succession; to protect habitat for, and populations of, fish and wildlife, including, but not limited to, brown/grizzly bears, moose, caribou, sea lions, seals, and other marine mammals, geese, swans, and other waterfowl and in a manner consistent with the foregoing, to interpret geological and biological processes for visitors. Subsistence

uses by local residents shall be permitted in the monument where such uses are traditional in accordance with the provisions of title VIII."

ANILCA section 601, in amending the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (PL 90-542), October 2, 1968, provides designation of the Aniakchak River and its major tributaries as a wild river within the wild and scenic rivers system.

Components of the national wild and scenic rivers system are to be administered pursuant to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, which states, in part:

Each component of the national wild and scenic river system shall be administered in such a manner as to protect and enhance the values which caused it to be included in said system without, insofar as it consistent therewith, limiting other uses that do not substantially interfere with public use and enjoyment of these values. In such administration primary emphasis shall be given to protecting its aesthetic, scenic, historic, archeologic, and scientific features. Management plans for any such component may establish varying degrees of intensity for its protection and development, based on the special attributes of the area.

Subsistence uses are also to be permitted in components of the national wild and scenic rivers system in accordance with title VIII of ANILCA.

III. The Evaluation Process

A draft general management plan has now been prepared that evaluates alternative management and visitor use options and makes certain proposals.

The potential for significant restrictions on subsistence uses as a result of these proposals must be evaluated for the actions' effects upon ". . . subsistence uses and needs, the availability of other lands for the purposes sought to be achieved and other alternatives which would reduce or eliminate the use." Restriction on subsistence use would be significant if there were large reductions in the abundance of harvestable resources, major redistributions of those resources, substantial interference with harvester access to active subsistence sites, or a major increase in nonrural resident hunting.

By asking the following questions and analyzing the responses relative to the area and the proposed action, an evaluation of significance becomes possible.

1. Would the alternative cause a reduction in the population of wildlife, fish, and other resources upon which subsistence harvesting depends; and/or would the alternative cause a decline in the population of wildlife or fish harvested for subsistence by altering the distribution of those resources?

2. Would the alternative cause a restriction on access to the harvestable resources where harvesting has historically taken place?

3. Would the alternative lead to increased competition for the big game present there?

IV. Proposed Actions

The draft general management plan for Aniakchak proposes virtually no change in current public use, including subsistence activities, in the monument/preserve. The future management of harvestable resources is to be based on regulations made by the state in cooperation with the National Park Service. The general management plan proposes research, survey, and monitoring efforts that will provide an objective basis for these regulations.

The proposed action does not include any physical development, improved access, or services intended to increase either sport hunting or nonconsumptive uses like hiking and rafting. However, it is realistic to assume some such increases will occur both in sport hunting (as native selected lands are conveyed and public hunting is restricted there, pressure may shift to the public lands) and in hiking/rafting (as Aniakchak becomes better known and guided wilderness tour operators develop it as a destination).

In terms of physical development and use, the general management plan proposes that overall administrative responsibility be given to a permanent full-time area manager resident in King Salmon, but who spends considerable summer season time in the field or in aircraft patrol in Aniakchak. Seasonal rangers will provide field patrols. Two part-time resident village coordinators will provide logistic support and assistance to the manager and rangers, and liaison with subsistence and other users who are residents in Port Heiden and the Chigniks. Sport hunters, fishermen, and other recreational users (hikers, rafters, guided groups) from outside the area will be offered information and interpretive service only in King Salmon.

No change in the present air charter access system is proposed, which now requires a business license that may be obtained by any qualified applicant. Subject to the area manager's authority to close an area or restrict an activity on an emergency, temporary, or permanent basis (36 CFR 13.30) no changes are proposed in current regulations permitting traditionally and customarily used access methods for subsistence users. This means that use of snowmachines, offroad vehicles, motorboats, and dogs or pack animals, where such uses have been traditional and customary in subsistence activities within Aniakchak's boundaries, would still be permitted subject to applicable laws and regulations. Use of fixed-wing aircraft or helicopters in subsistence activities, unless special exceptions are granted, would not be permitted. Access modes for recreational users (including sport hunters, fishermen, hikers, rafters, and others) may include snowmachines, motorboats, fixed-wing aircraft, and dogs and pack animals. Offroad vehicles and helicopters are not allowed to be used in recreational activities.

Development proposed in the monument/preserve is limited to adaptive restoration of the APA bunkhouse at the Aniakchak River mouth for continued use by NPS staff and the public, and several temporary portable shelters to be used by administrative staff. A hiking access corridor from Port Heiden into the caldera would be marked, but no actual trail would be constructed.

V. Affected Environment: Current Subsistence Use

The wildlife resources and subsistence activities in Aniakchak are described in the affected environment section of the Environmental Assessment. In summary, though no reliable estimates of actual harvest are available, it is known that subsistence hunting (primarily caribou, moose, and waterfowl), fishing, berry picking and collecting other plant products are traditional activities within the monument and preserve. This includes use by Port Heiden residents along the western boundary of the monument and use by Chignik residents in the eastern preserve and along the Pacific shoreline.

VI. Evaluation

The environmental consequences section of the "Environmental Assessment" provides discussion of the full range of impacts associated with the general management plan's proposal. The three questions of special concern to subsistence activities are evaluated below.

1. The potential to reduce populations of harvestable resources

Neither the proposal nor any of the alternatives considered would result in habitat manipulation or in physical development of a scale that would have any direct impact on reducing or redistributing harvestable wildlife or other subsistence resources. Although there are no proposals intended to encourage increased recreational use, one alternative would have immediately provided some shelters at campsites that might have been an encouragement to some camping visitors to the caldera. However, increases are expected regardless of lack of facilities or direct encouragement (see "Proposed Actions" above).

Concerning possible increased sporthunting impacts, see item 3 below. For increased hiking, rafting, and exploring visitors, the total increase is expected to be small (from one or two groups a season to three or four). Four groups in the caldera and/or going down the Aniakchak in one season, separated by one or more weeks, would probably have a minimum effect on displacing wildlife from the river corridor. Even if there was a displacement, it would take place in July and early August in advance of the fall hunting season and therefore have no impact on legal subsistence hunting. No areas where hiking and rafting are expected to increase appear to be critical feeding habitat for subsistence used wildlife.

Conclusion. Neither the proposal nor any of the alternatives would cause a reduction in harvestable resources; if any redistribution occurs (e.g., displacement along the river) it would be temporary and outside

the hunting season and therefore probably have no significant effect on subsistence harvest.

2. Restriction of access

Neither the proposal nor any alternative would change currently allowed access means so long as these were traditionally and customarily employed prior to establishment of the monument/preserve. Relative to subsistence, this means that snowmachines, offroad vehicles, motorboats, dogs and pack animals, if they can be shown to have been used traditionally and customarily, would still be permitted; fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters would not.

Conclusion. Since no changes in traditional subsistence access are proposed, no restriction of existing access to harvestable resources is anticipated under the proposed action.

3. Increase in competition

The potential for competition for big game or other harvestable resources would be a function of increases in sport hunting and fishing. Neither the proposal nor any of the alternatives would encourage increases in these uses. However, anticipated restrictions in accessibility to native lands for public hunting may increase sporthunting pressure on public lands such as the preserve or the Alaska Peninsula National Wildlife Refuge independent of NPS proposals for Aniakchak.

Conclusion. Proposed NPS actions would not lead directly to increased competition for big game or other harvestable resources. Decisions by other landowners may have indirect impacts on competition; these should not be attributed to the National Park Service. The proposed increase in research, survey, and monitoring within the monument and preserve should provide the basis for objective regulation of both sport and subsistence harvest; in the long term this should ensure that competition between the two is minimized.

VII. Availability of Other Lands for the Proposed Action

There are no other lands available for this action because the preserve boundaries were established by Congress to achieve specific purposes. However, there are lands outside the monument and preserve that are available for subsistence uses. The proposed plan is consistent with the mandates of ANILCA, including title VIII and the NPS organic act.

VIII. Alternatives Considered

The "Environmental Assessment" analyzes three alternatives and the proposal. These range from minimum legally required management with no facilities or separate staff, through a middle-road alternative (essentially the proposal), to an alternative that provided some immediate small shelter facilities and a permanent staff resident in local villages.

No alternative suggested changes in access modes or habitat manipulation or anything that would have directly affected subsistence uses. No alternative would have provided encouragement to increased sport hunting and directly increased the potential for competition.

In addition, it is possible for subsistence users to use other lands outside the monument/preserve, and they do. They use the lands most easily accessible that can provide for their needs and extend their activities to other areas on an "as needed" basis.

IX. Consultation and Coordination

The "General Management Plan" to which this evaluation is appended has been developed with extensive contact with state agencies, federal agencies, local and regional native groups, and conservation organizations (see "Consultation and Coordination" section).

X. Findings

This evaluation concludes that the proposed plan would not result in significant restrictions of subsistence uses in Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

J: DETERMINATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH ALASKA COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT POLICIES

Section 307(c) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended (PL 92-583), states that "each federal agency conducting or supporting activities directly affecting the coastal zone shall conduct or support those activities in a manner which is, to the maximum extent practicable, consistent with approved state coastal management programs."

The Alaska Coastal Management Act of 1977, as amended, and the subsequent Alaska Coastal Management Program (ACMP) and Final Environmental Impact Statement of 1979 set forth policy guidelines and standards for consistency determination. The Bristol Bay Coastal Resource Service Area is preparing a district program, but the program has not been approved by the state or the U.S. Department of Commerce. Until it is approved, the standards established by the state of Alaska are applicable to Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve.

The ACMP identifies 12 primary categories that are to be used in consistency evaluations. The basis of the following consistency determination is the environmental assessment that accompanies this general management plan for Aniakchak. The highlights of this assessment are organized in the format of the ACMP standards in the following consistency determination. This determination considers not only the elements of the proposed plan, but also the elements of alternative proposals in the draft plan that relate to coastal land and water uses.

COASTAL DEVELOPMENT

6 AAC 80.040 (refers to ACMP section)

- (a) In planning for and approving development in coastal areas, districts and state agencies shall give, in the following order, priority to
 - (1) water-dependent uses and activities,
 - (2) water-related uses and activities, and
 - (3) uses and activities that are neither water-dependent nor water-related for which there is no feasible and prudent inland alternative to meet the public need for the use or activity.
- (b) The placement of structures and the discharge of dredged or fill material into coastal water must, at a minimum, comply with CFR, Parts 320-323, July 19, 1977.

Proposal: Consistent. There would be no new NPS facility development. Existing cabin facilities would be used by seasonal ranger patrols. The placement of structures and the discharge of dredged or fill material into coastal waters would not be required.

Alternatives: Also consistent. No significant changes in existing use and development were considered.

GEOPHYSICAL HAZARD AREAS

6 AAC 80.050

- (a) Districts and state agencies will identify known geophysical hazard areas and areas of high development potential in which there is a substantial possibility that geophysical hazards may occur.
- (b) Development in areas identified under (a) of this section may not be approved by the appropriate state or local authority until siting, design, and construction measures for minimizing property damage and protecting against loss of life have been provided.

Proposal: There would be no new development. If there was evidence of renewed volcanic activity in Aniakchak caldera or elsewhere, restrictions on public use for safety considerations would be evaluated. The existing structure at Aniakchak Bay, which would be used by seasonal ranger patrols, is located some 30 miles from Aniakchak caldera and has remained intact over the last 60 years.

Alternatives: Also consistent. The only development proposed would have been shelter tent platforms in the caldera with minimal capital cost.

RECREATION

6 AAC 80.060

- (a) Districts will designate areas for recreational use. Criteria for designation of areas of recreational use are
 - (1) the area receives significant use by persons engaging in recreational pursuits or is a major tourist destination, or
 - (2) the area has potential for high quality recreational use, because of physical, biological, or cultural features.
- (b) Districts and state agencies will give high priority to maintaining and, where appropriate, increasing public access to coastal water.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. Recreational activities and opportunities in the coastal region of the monument/preserve would continue.

ENERGY FACILITIES

6 AAC 80.070 Not applicable.

TRANSPORTATION AND UTILITIES

6 AAC 80.080

- (a) Transportation and utility routes and facilities in the coastal area must be sited, designed, and constructed so as to be compatible with district programs.
- (b) Transportation and utility routes and facilities must be sited inland from beaches and shorelines unless the route or facility is water-dependent or no feasible and prudent inland alternative exists to meet the public need for the route or facility.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. Existing transportation methods and routes would not be affected, and no new utility systems would be developed.

FISH AND SEAFOOD PROCESSING

6 AAC 80.090

Districts will identify and may designate areas of the coast suitable for the location or development of facilities related to commercial fishing and seafood processing.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. There would be no developments to accommodate commercial fishing activities.

TIMBER HARVESTING AND PROCESSING

6 AAC 80.100 Not applicable.

MINING AND MINERAL PROCESSING

6 AAC 80.110

- (a) Mining and mineral processing in the coastal area must be regulated, designed, and conducted so as to be compatible with the standards contained in this chapter, adjacent uses and activities, statewide and national needs, and district programs.
- (b) Sand and gravel may be extracted from coastal waters, intertidal areas, barrier islands, and spits when there is no feasible and prudent alternative to coastal extraction which will meet the public need for sand or gravel.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. Mining activities in Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve would include locatable mineral claims that may be filed on state lands inside the preserve and lands on which full title may be conveyed to village corporations or the Koniag Regional Corporation. It would also include extraction of oil and gas (not hard rock minerals) from lands on which Koniag Inc. may eventually be conveyed oil and gas rights. In all these cases, mining activities must meet applicable state and federal environmental protection standards to minimize environmental impacts, which would be consistent with this standard.

SUBSISTENCE

6 AAC 80.120

- (a) Districts and state agencies will recognize and ensure opportunities for subsistence usage of coastal areas and resources.
- (b) Districts will identify areas in which subsistence is the dominant use of coastal resources.
- (c) Districts may, after consultation with appropriate state agencies, native corporations, and any other persons or groups, designate areas identified under (b) of this section as subsistence zones in which subsistence uses and activities have priority over all nonsubsistence uses and activities.
- (d) Before a potentially conflicting use or activity may be authorized within areas designated under (c) of this section, a study of the possible adverse impacts of the proposed potentially conflicting use or activity upon subsistence usage must be conducted, and appropriate safeguards to ensure subsistence usage must be provided.
- (e) Districts sharing migratory fish and game resources must submit compatible plans for habitat management.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. Existing subsistence uses, including hunting, fishing, trapping, and other uses of renewable resources would continue. Subsistence use is compatible with provisions of subsistence legislation and NPS policy. (Also see ANILCA Section 810 Subsistence Evaluation in appendix I.)

HABITATS

6 AAC 80.130

- (a) Habitats in the coastal area which are subject to the ACMP include:

(1) offshore areas, (2) estuaries, (3) wetlands and tidelands, (4) rocky islands and seacliffs, (5) barrier islands and lagoons, (6) exposed high energy coasts, (7) rivers, streams, and lakes, and (8) important upland habitat.

- (b) The habitats contained in (a) of this section must be managed so as to maintain or enhance the biological, physical, and chemical characteristics of the habitat which contribute to its capacity to support living resources.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. Natural resources and associated processes would be protected. No NPS proposal would significantly affect any of the above-listed habitats.

AIR, LAND, AND WATER QUALITY

6 AAC 80.140

The statutes pertaining to and the regulations and procedures of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation with respect to the protection of air, land, and water are incorporated into the ACMP.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. All standards of the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation will be met. Appropriate and necessary permits and review of proposed actions are an inherent part of the NPS general management plan process.

HISTORIC, PREHISTORIC, AND ARCHEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

6 AAC 80.150

Districts and appropriate state agencies will identify areas of the coast that are important to the study, understanding, or illustration of national, state, or local history or prehistory.

Proposal and Alternatives: Consistent. Historic and prehistoric surveys have been undertaken, and identified cultural resources are being protected according to NPS policies and standards. Procedures are in effect to protect any additional resources discovered during implementation of this plan. All standards of the ACMP have been met or exceeded.

CONSISTENCY CONCLUSIONS

The draft general management plan for Aniakchak National Monument and Preserve has been evaluated for consistency with the standards of the ACMP. The National Park Service has determined that the proposed plan conforms with all the requirements of the ACMP.

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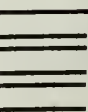
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